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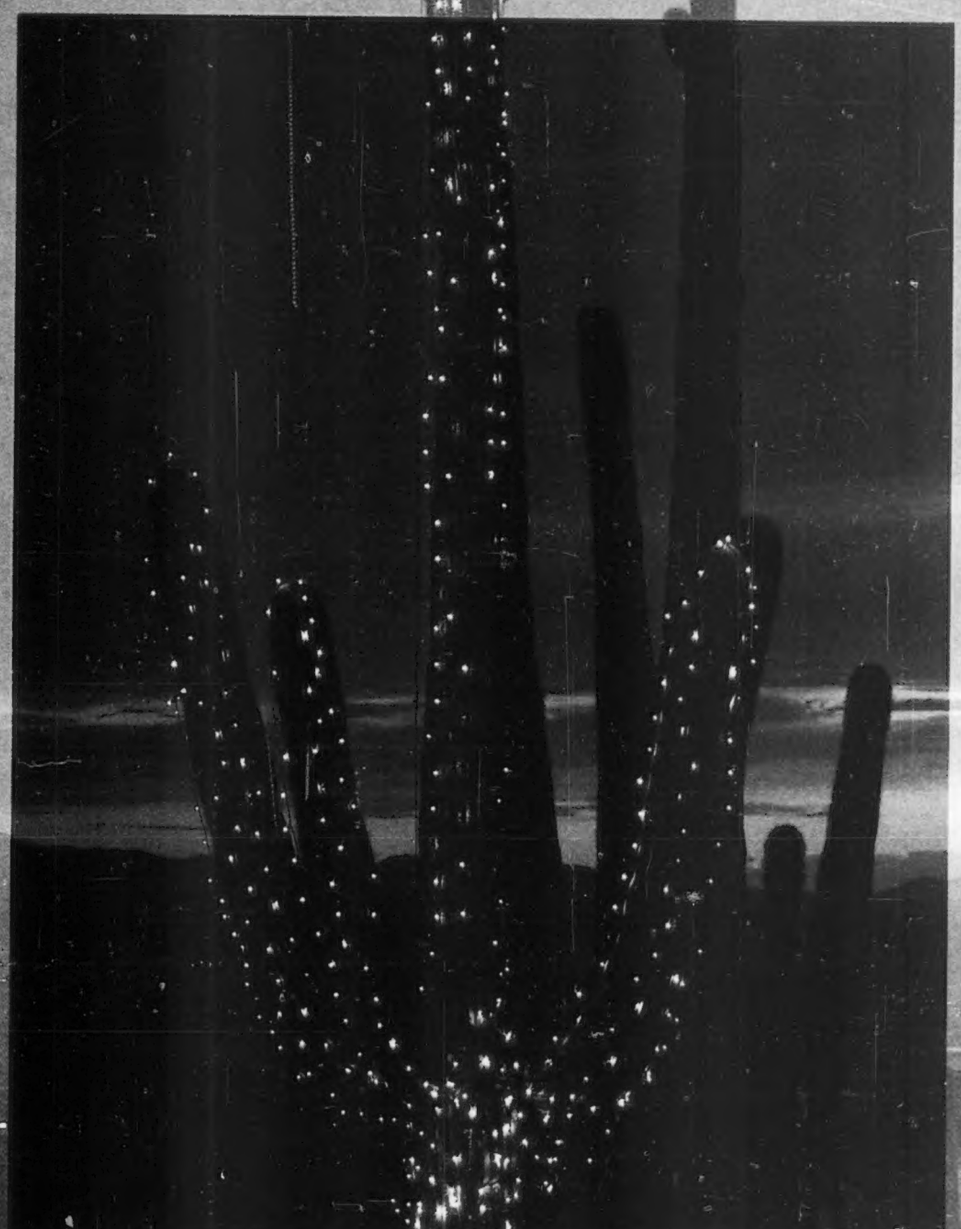

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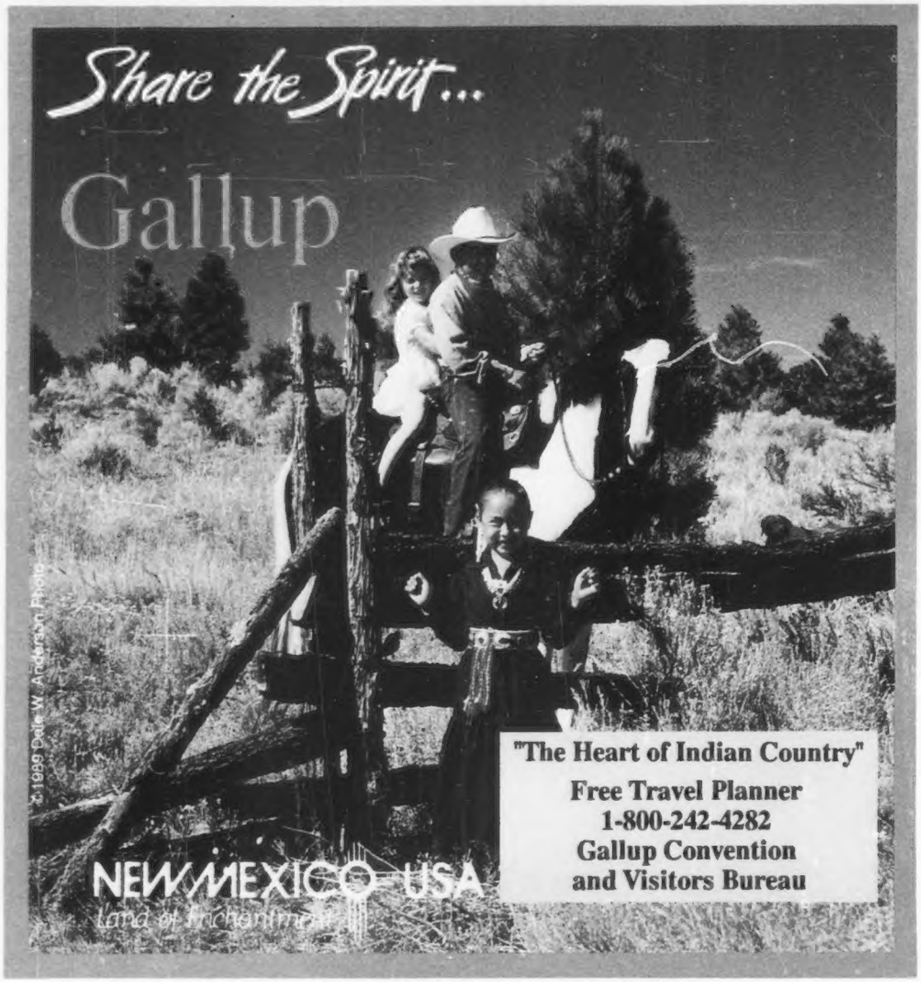

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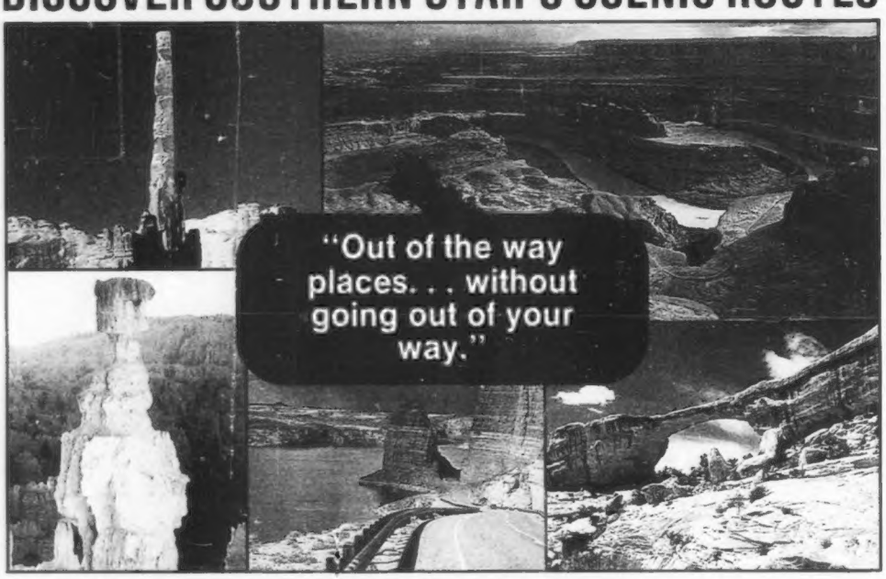

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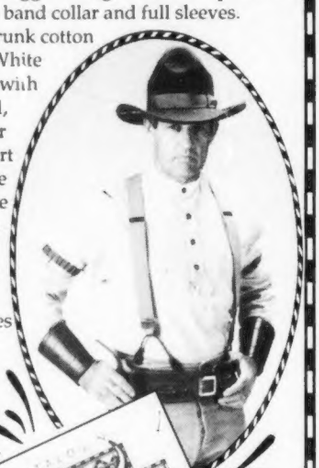

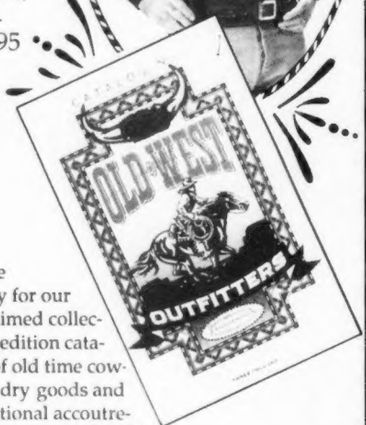

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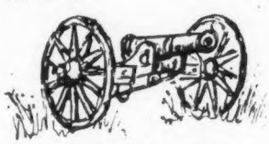
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The American
WEST
TRAVEL & LIFE

DECEMBER 1989 VOL. XXVI, NO. 6

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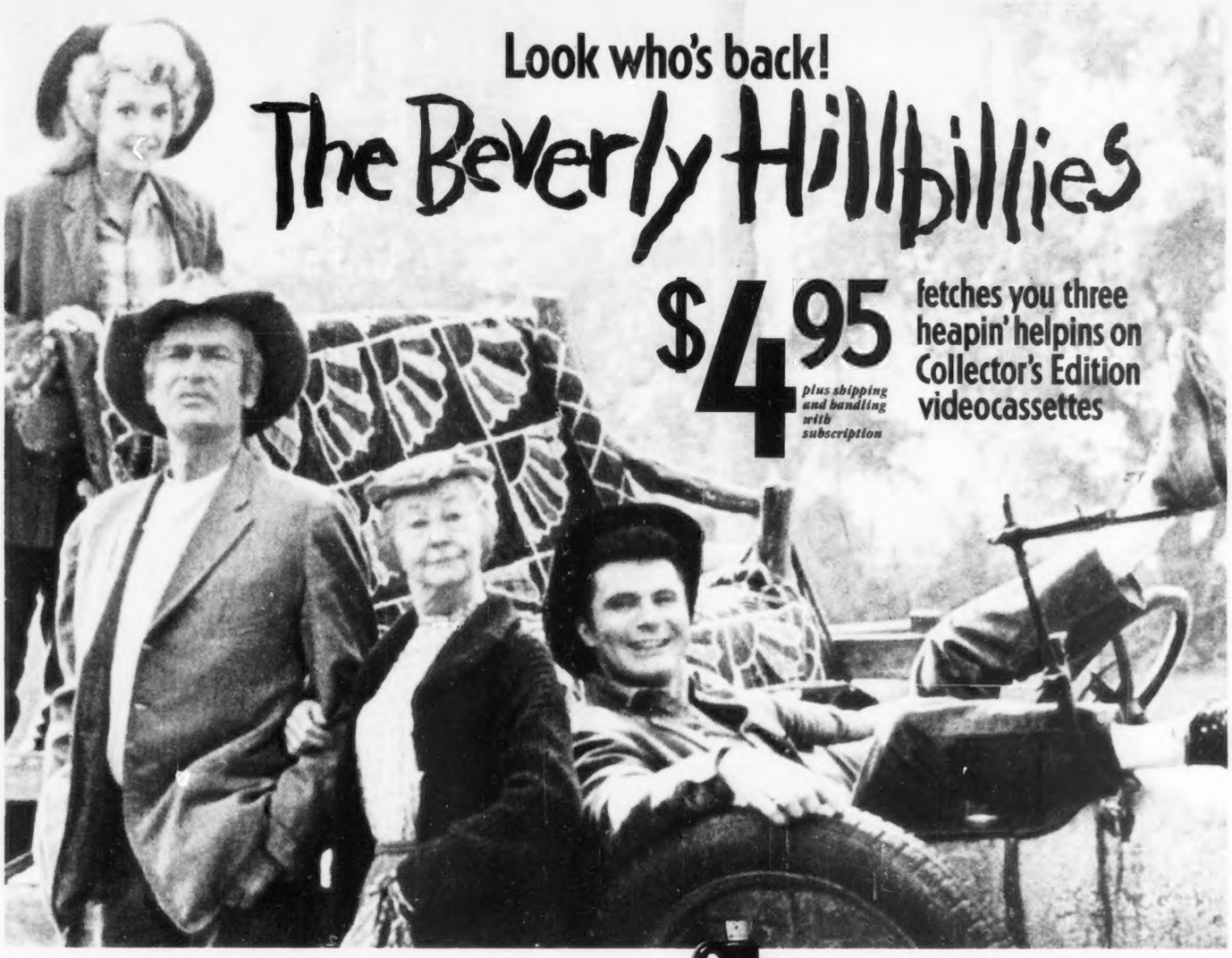
The Beverly Hillbillies



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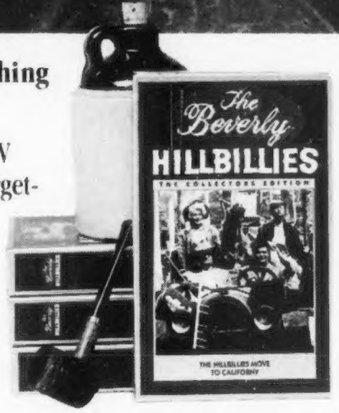

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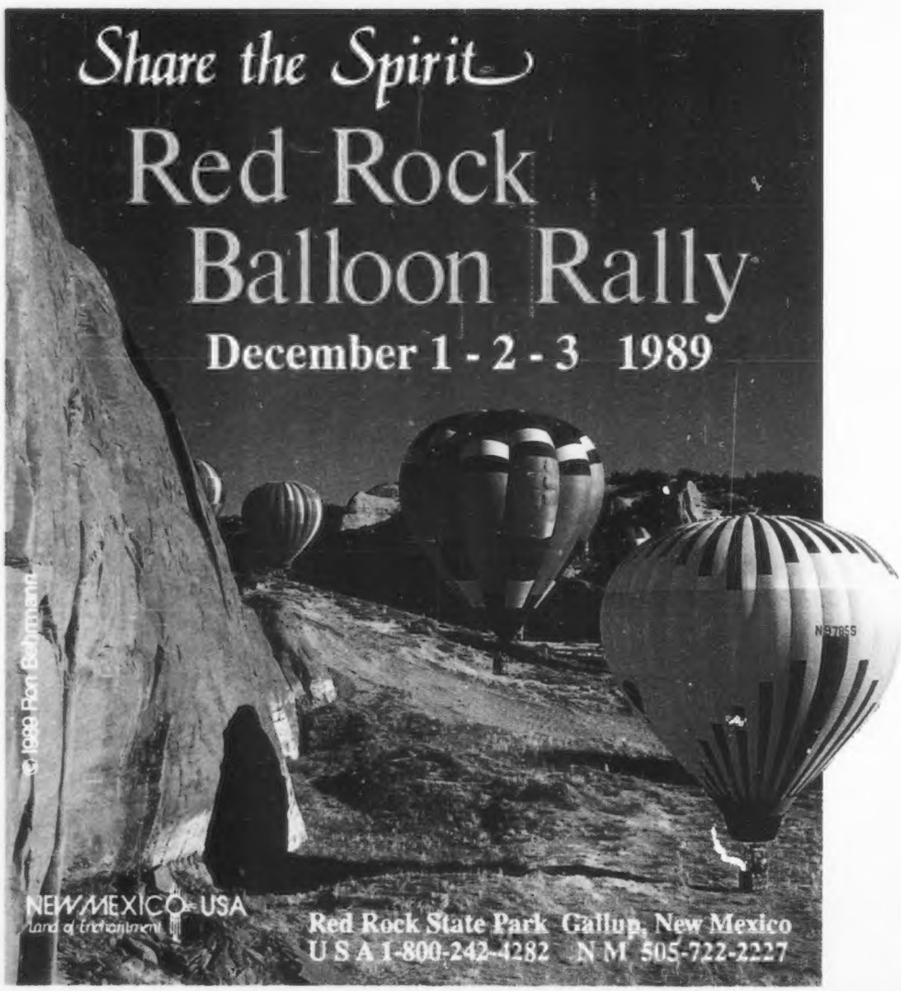
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EDITOR'S LETTER

Photo by Balfour Walker

Writers will tell you that a story's "lead" is often the trickiest part of writing it. Making that first paragraph "jump" virtually insures grabbing a reader's attention.

With that in mind, perhaps you can appreciate my dilemma as I write about this issue of *The American West*. Doling out magazine information isn't "heady stuff," nor does it lend itself to a Pulitzer Prize "lead." But the subject matter of this letter is important to all of us at the magazine and to you, our readers. I'd like all of you to be aware of some of the changes you'll discover in this issue, changes that will continue to be a part of the magazine in the future.

So please consider yourself "grabbed" and we'll get on with the business at hand — what's different about our magazine, and why.

First of all, the entire editorial staff is new and we're full of ideas about how to make *The American West* a better read, as well as a publication you'll find you *need*. With that concept in mind, we've streamlined some of the departments and beefed up our feature stories with color photography galore.

But while the photos and layouts create a magazine's image, it is the ideas, the words, the themes, that contribute to a magazine's essence. And it's here that you'll discover the biggest change. Our focus is still the West (and that includes everything west of the Mississippi), but we'll concentrate that focus more and devote a larger portion of the editorial copy to travel in the West, more specifically to travel to Western cities. And when we write about a city, we'll give you every pertinent detail we can unearth, so that, when you arrive at a particular location — on business or for a vacation — you'll be equipped with an insider's knowledge of the town.

How do we plan to accomplish this task? By talking to as many residents of those cities as we can, asking them where they dine, where they shop, what they do for fun. We'll also be visiting many cities ourselves, playing detective and getting the inside scoop — we hope! For this issue, our senior staff photographer, Reid Helms, carried his camera to Vail, Colorado, and all around Tucson, Arizona, to capture both these locales in ways you've never seen them before.

In addition to travel, our aim is to focus on western lifestyles and, with this end in mind, we have included two interesting articles, one about a fascinating couple who live in a unique house in Tucson and the other about a special, high-flying week for high-powered (or should we say, 'powdered'?) skiers in Vail.

You'll also find an excellent profile of western mystery author Tony Hillerman and a spread on western fashions for the holidays within the main body of editorial.

Our aim is to make each and every issue of this magazine a treasure-house of useful information, something you'll read for enjoyment and then stash away to use when you visit one of the cities we've covered. To let you anticipate all that's in store for you in the next few years, I have included the preliminary schedule we've drawn up (See adjoining column). Naturally, there may be a few changes, but, in the main, we anticipate *adding* additional cities as the magazine grows.

To all our loyal subscribers, we hope you take a good, long look at this version of our magazine. Naturally, we hope that you'll like what you see and let us know.

Sue Giles

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF/PUBLISHER

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1990

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Idaho/Wyoming Centennials
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Albuquerque
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OCTOBER
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Montana
Omaha
DECEMBER
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1991

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New Orleans
Boulder
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Lake Tahoe
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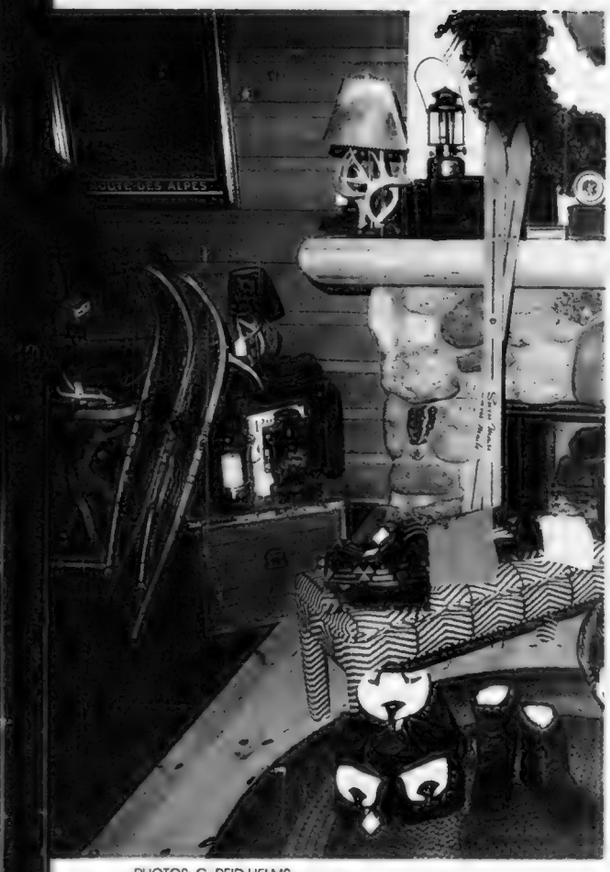
Unveiling Vail

Pick a season – well, more specifically, pick summer or winter – in the Vail Valley and you'll find people lining up to rave about this activity or that adventure. The multiplicity of Vail becomes more evident when, for example, a former champion ski racer says she lives in this mecca of world class skiing and ski life because of the summer weather and activities. Add to the equation generous Alpine influences in architecture and lifestyle and the towering beauty of the great Gore Range in the rugged Colorado Rocky Mountains and we have arrived at a nearly complete vacation spot. (Nearly because there is no ocean, after all.)

While planning your visit or when you arrive, remember the entire place is called "Vail." In actuality, Vail is comprised of East Vail, Golden Peak, Vail Village, Lionshead, West Vail, Minturn, Beaver Creek, Avon, Edwards and even Eagle, which is down the road a piece. Basically we're talking about an entire valley. The Village is very concentrated and Beaver Creek is very exclusive, being home to ex-President Ford and the Missus.



PHOTOS: G. REID HELMS

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PHOTO: KEN REDDING

by the editors of The American West

The Gondola begins its scenic climb at Lionshead; the ride is impressive year-round. Also, one ski lift ticket allows you access to Vail Mountain and Beaver Creek. (They are owned and operated by the same company.)

Ground transportation, as in buses, is great year-round, too, and free. This is very important because vehicle access is extremely limited in the Village and at Lionshead. Horse-drawn carriages and sleighs move people about at a more romantic pace. It is said that the local transit system moves more people

Wintertime in Vail means snow and skiing, but there are plenty of other things to do too.

Opposite page: the clock tower in Vail Village.

This page, clockwise, from top left: the bar at Cyrano's; tourists in the snow; the Colorado Ski Museum; the lobby of The Lodge at Vail; The Golden Bear; and Gorsuch, Ltd.; two shopping meccas in Vail Village.

PHOTO: DAVID LOKEY

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Clockwise, from top left: Mid-Vail; scenic Christmas lighting in Beaver Creek; the Tea Room Alpenrose.

Unveiling Vail

daily than the Denver bus system and that they also have the big city beat for snow removal. Of course, we were also told that they count Golden Retrievers during the census. According to a local magazine, Goldens outnumber Democrats in the area. It's a good thing the dogs have a great sense of humor.

The local people seem genuinely open and friendly and are willing to share their niche in this small mountain community. This attitude is important from a purely practical point of view.

Skiing, of course, is the big winter and early spring draw, with some of the best downhill runs and cross-country trails in the country, if not the world. The mountain comes billed as the largest single mountain ski area in the country. You'll find a skiing activity to fit your skill level, even if you are at the face-first snow plow level or have graduated to perfect form assaults straight down double diamond black runs. Other wintertime activities include snowmobiling, ice skating, hockey, ice fishing, snowshoeing, telemarking and, of course, lounging in spas and hot tubs to help ease the impact of the day's doings. An ample supply of après ski get togethers, restaurants of all types and styles and bars and clubs with music ranging from loud, raunchy rock-and-roll to the tinkling piano ivories can be heard from one end of the valley to the other. This community knows how to have a good time at night in order to

PHOTOS: G. REID HELMS

rest up from the good times during the day.

Summer activities tend to fall into the basic category of "Let's get out and do something." Biking, hiking, tennis, fly fishing, rafting, jeeping, hot air ballooning and great golfing at five incredible courses located amongst the many hills and streams are just a sampling. Nature walks and backpacking rate high. Stretching out and watching the trees multiply, the clouds meander by or the stars twinkle also come highly recommended. Evening concerts of rock, jazz or classical music, as well as plays and other social events fill the summer months.

If you bring your children for a meaningful family vacation but get your fill of meaningful before they do, there are many inventive learning programs for the kids – winter and summer. Sport Goofy, of Disney fame – Yes, that Goofy! – leads some of the activities. You gotta see it to believe it.

What follows are listings of places and things to do in the Vail area, not necessarily all inclusive, nor will our staff willingly offer our lives in defense of our choices. However, we believe the information to be valuable for those of you wanting a pleasant stay without the time-consuming hit-and-miss approach to a good time. Enjoy this mountain paradise. Please note that we have not included much information on downhill skiing. Because of the quality and number of runs in the area, all you need do is jump on a lift, get off at the top and ski

Clockwise, from top left: Cogswell Gallery in Vail Village; The Hong Kong Cafe in Vail Village; a golf course in East Vail; Jill Vickers, a Vail Village gallery; strolling performers in Beaver Creek; Battle Mountain Trading Post, with branches in both Lionshead and Minturn.

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Unveiling Vail

down or somewhere in that general direction. They're all great! If you are worried about just how great it will be, there is plenty of ski instruction to be found. The listings below are, in general, winter offerings, but don't let that deter you. Summer activities are everywhere and information about them nearly grows on trees.

NOTE: Telephone numbers are provided where applicable. The area code for Colorado is 303.

RESTAURANTS

If you have to eat, you might as well eat well. The listings that follow are in no particular order. Just pick one that appeals to you and yours or try them all. Because of the popularity of the area during the high season, it may be best to make reservations before you arrive in Vail. Some of the restaurants are also popular entertainment spots.

Cyrano's - In Vail. Breakfast, brunch and dinner in an atmosphere rich with stained glass and green plants. Continental cuisine. *476-5551.*

Beano's Cabin - In Beaver Creek. A SnowCat pulls a sleigh up the mountain twice each night to this log hideaway. You ride in the sleigh and are greeted with champagne and a roaring fire. Enjoy the chicken with jalapeño and lemon, accompanied by Beano's special rhubarb wine. Reservations: *949-5750* or stop at the desk of the Park Plaza.

The Saloon - In Minturn. Enormous helpings of Tex-Mex food. The house specialties are fajitas, burritos and quail. The margaritas come highly recommended. Celebrity photos adorn the walls and some say John Wayne used to hang out here. *827-5954.*

Minturn Country Club - In Minturn, which is between Vail and Beaver Creek. Not a private club, the name is a local joke because they "have everything but the golf course." Do-it-yourself eating out, you cook their steaks, chicken and fish on open grills. Always crowded and great fun. *827-4114.*

Wildflower Inn - In Vail Village. Located at the Lodge at Vail, the award-winning gourmet Wildflower specializes in American Nouvelle cuisine. Reservations. *476-5011.*

Tea Room Alpenrose - In Vail. European bakery and restaurant with intimate little rooms. Specializes in homemade goodies - like eclairs, napoleons, tortes and breads - that can be eaten on the sunny terrace or hoarded for takeout. Continental fare is served at dinner. *476-3194.*

Ore House - In Vail Village. A local favorite for steaks, ribs, chicken and seafood. Next to the Covered Bridge. Always dependable. *476-5100.*

The Left Bank - In Vail. Posh, expensive and an elegant setting, this is among the finest French restaurants in the area. It is located in the Sitzmark Lodge and owned by the same folks who offer Mirabelle at Beaver Creek. *476-3696.*

Mirabelle At Beaver Creek - Located in an 80-year-old homestead, this is an exquisite restaurant serving a gourmet selection of lighter, Southern French dishes. *949-7728.*

The Cafe Colorado - Between Vail and Lionshead. Located in the Doubletree Hotel, the offerings here include very tasty Southwestern cuisine. Fridays they have a good seafood buffet featuring Maine lobster. *476-7810.*

Mataam Fez - In Vail. If you enjoy eating with your fingers while seated on cushions as you stare into the undulating navel of a belly dancer, this is the place for you. Good Moroccan food. Try the six-course Moroccan Feast. *476-1948.*

Vendetta's - In Vail Village. Basic burger and pasta lunches are offered upstairs, along with good après ski. Try the more elegant Northern Italian cuisine for dinner downstairs. Good live entertainment. *476-5070.*

Reno Cafe & Bar - Redcliff, in mountains south of Vail. Mexican food at reasonable prices. In the winter, you ski cross country over Shrine Pass to get there and then have a driver take you home. Run by the ex-mayor of Redcliff and his large family who do all the cooking. Pool table and jukebox. Reservations. *827-9995.*

Tyrolean Inn - In Vail. Continental menu featuring wild game, such as buffalo, pheasant, wild boar and the like. Try the Venison or Elk Forestière. Great atmosphere in a Tyrolean hunting lodge. *476-2204.*

Sweet Basil - In Vail. Overlooks the village and the creek and offers a unique menu. They have fresh seafood and the atmosphere is open and airy. Expensive. Reservations. *476-0125.*

Kennedy's At Singletree - In Edwards. Located at the Singletree Sonnenalp Country Club, this very good restaurant offers prime rib and fresh seafood. Reservations. *949-6824.*

The Bristol At Arrowhead - In Edwards. Imaginative American cuisine, located in the clubhouse at the Country Club of the Rockies. You can also sleigh on the golf course, but not during dinner. Reservations. *476-0200.*

The Jackalope Cafe - In West Vail. Located in the West Vail Mall, this local favorite serves hearty breakfasts and lunches. Tney specialize in southwestern foods and the flautas come highly

continued on page 50

PHOTO BY JERRY SINKOVEC

El Rancho Hotel — World's Largest Ranch House

by Jane C. Cross

Once a home to the Hollywood stars who came to film "on location" in the New Mexico desert, the El Rancho Hotel now offers guests old fashioned comfort and a touch of nostalgia.

R. E. "Griff" Griffith, brother of film director D. W. Griffith, built the El Rancho Hotel in 1937 during the heyday of movie westerns. Griff, a movie director in his own right, came to Gallup in the early 1930's to make a picture and was attracted to the area. He returned a few years later to build the rambling, ranch-house style hotel. Soon Gallup became a center for B-grade movie productions because of its classic western atmosphere and close proximity to the Navajo reservation, a ready source of Indian extras. Between 1940 and 1955, some 14 movies were made in and around the area. Over 300 Hollywood celebrities, including Spencer Tracy, Katharine Hepburn and Kirk Douglas, found the warmth and elegance of the El Rancho a welcome retreat after a day of filming.

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El Rancho Hotel

House." El Rancho was the number one resort between St. Louis and Barstow in the 1940's. Besides being home to the stars, it was reputed to have the largest gambling casino outside Las Vegas. It attracted high rollers, and roulette and poker table wagers were in silver dollars not chips. Though gambling was against state law, the hotel was just outside the Gallup city limits and the sheriff obligingly looked the other way most of the time.

Besides being home to the stars, it was reputed to have the largest gambling casino outside Las Vegas.

Unfortunately, the fate of the El Rancho echoed that of Westerns, and it declined into oblivion when the movie crews went elsewhere. Rebirth came in 1988 after a major restoration by its new owner, Armand Ortega. Ortega was 13 when he first visited the hotel in 1941 and its elegance made a lasting impression. When the property was sold at a bankruptcy auction, Ortega bought the El Rancho, determined to return it to its former grandeur. Today the charm and friendliness of the El Rancho is back — including a staff that calls you by your first name and an old wood sign hanging out front that says "Howdy."

The two story lobby reflects the warmth and style Ortega wanted to recapture. A massive brick and stone fireplace is flanked by two split-log staircases leading to the mezzanine. Navajo rugs hang over the railings and the furnishings reflect the region's blend of Spanish, Indian and Western cultures. Comfortable chairs invite you to sit and chat rather than hurry on to your room. Many of the guests have interesting memories of the hotel or are relatives of movie stars or production crew members who stayed there. One recent guestbook entry was written by a woman who originally visited the El Rancho during a trip on horseback from Ohio to Los Angeles in 1941; another was by actress Goldie Hawn.

An original mural dominating one wall of the lobby is a good place to start for an overview of the history and geography of the area. It depicts the Spanish-Indian encounters and pinpoints the nearby sights and Indian ruins. The mezzanine's picture gallery has some wonderful autographed photos of the stars who filmed in the area. Before long, you find yourself visualizing Rosalind Russell traipsing down the stairs and Humphrey Bogart settling in at the bar. Don't miss the signed photograph of Robert Mitchum; it would break any woman's heart.

Ortega made every effort to preserve the El Rancho's charm and the rooms weren't altered during restoration. Decorated with Southwestern style furniture and art, their varied sizes and shapes make for an interesting variety of bed and furniture layouts. The rooms are named after movie stars who came to the hotel and, in most cases, stayed in the actual rooms bearing their name. Thus it seems perfectly natural that the John Wayne room is one of the largest with two big double beds and a sitting area. The hotel even boasts a Presidential Suite, and why not? Former President Ronald Reagan stayed at the El Rancho twice: in 1940 while filming *The Bad Man*, and again when making *Death Valley Days*.

The restaurant serves wholesome western fare and is a place where you get to know your waiter and can pick up some tips on what to do in the area. The Breakfast Bunkhouse Special is ample for a full day of sightseeing, while the lunch menu features three acts and a sense of humor. Act Two is Starlet of the Year, lettuce with light make-up, while Act Three includes The Ronald Reagan burger with jelly beans on the side. Dinner is primarily steak and chicken, traditional and good.

The last major motion picture to be filmed in Gallup was *Superman* in 1978, but there is more to attract the tourist than the hope of spotting a movie star. The El Rancho makes a convenient base from which to explore the nearby historic sights and colorful scenery. Gallup is in the heart of Indian Country and is the principal trading center for the Navajo and Zuni tribes. It's a good place to prowl the pawnshops and trading posts for Zuni jewelry, Navajo rugs and other Indian crafts. Several ancient ruins and National Monuments are within an easy day's drive, including El Morro, El Malpais, Petrified Forest, Canyon de Chelly and Chaco Canyon (a newly designated World Heritage Site).

The El Rancho Hotel is located in Gallup, New Mexico, on Highway 66 two blocks from Exit 22 off Interstate 40. Rates at the hotel range from $35 to $50 for double occupancy; all have private bath, telephone and television. For reservations contact the El Rancho Hotel, 1000 East 66 Avenue, Gallup, New Mexico, 87301 (505) 863-9311.

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SPECIALTY SKIING WITH STYLE:

As I waited to see which ski class I would be in on a gray December morning, I felt as if I were in Europe. Most of my fellow skiers were clad brilliantly, stylishly, and expensively in a fashion prevalent in the Alps but rare in the States. The instructors watching us ski off spoke a medley of languages. Even the village below was composed largely of wood-trimmed stucco chalets. But the snow underfoot was unmistakably Colorado powder, packed smooth as velvet, and I wasn't suffering from jet lag.

It wasn't time travel that took me to Europe but Pepi Grammshammer, a congenial former Austrian racer, who helped create so cosmopolitan a scene in so American a mountain range as the Rockies. Pepi was instrumental in bringing the prestigious 1989 World Alpine Ski Championships to Vail, the first time they were run in the United States in nearly 40 years. Pepi also has managed to persuade the beautiful people to spend an early-season week at Vail fine-tuning their ski technique. I think the latter might have been more of a feat. Vail's BPs aren't the high-profile tycoons (like Donald Trump or The Limited's Leslie Wexner) or entertainers (like John Denver, Don Johnson, Barbara Mandrell, or Barbra Streisand) who roost in nearby Aspen. Rather they are an executive elite whose faces you won't know, but whose enterprise and affluence are admirable.

Vail regulars — many with six-figure incomes, seven-figure net worths, and posh second homes nearby — are a habit-bound group who don't normally ski until Santa's sleighbells are within earshot. But Pepi doesn't like to see empty guest rooms in the Gasthof Gramshammer; he feels bereft when visitors aren't crowding around the bar or scarfing up schnitzel in the Antlers dining room; and he likes to see the friends he's made.

Five years ago, Pepi had a brainstorm. He figured he could fill his hotel, keep the chef and the bartender busy, and see his running mates by importing the Austrian concept of Wedel

Wedel Weeks in Vail

by Claire Walter

Photography by David Lokey

Wochen to Wail — I mean, Vail. These are early-season tuneup weeks enjoyed by European skiers when the snow first starts blanketing the slopes, and while the hotels and lifts are still underutilized. Pepi's pals aren't normally the sort confined to a two-vacation-weeks-a-year rut, so he ran the concept of Wedel Weeks, to be held between Thanksgiving and Christmas, up the flagpole. The first winter, 23 people saluted. Most of them have returned every year since.

Once the word got out, a lot of locals — mostly business people who can get away in what is Vail's only slow time while there's snow on the ground — began taking part too. The week I was there, Mike Shannon, the current president of Vail Associates (which operates the ski area), and Harry Frampton, the former president, both signed on. Shannon got called out of town on business, but his wife Mary Sue took part — and Harry was in for the duration. Last year, there were over 250 participants. The Gasthof Gramshammer can't accomodate all those who don't have their own places in Vail, so three other terrific hotels — the Lodge at Vail and the Sonnenalp in Vail Village and the new Hyatt Regency Beaver Creek — now catch the overflow. (I'd like to own a stock that performs as well as Pepi's Wedel Weeks).

These aren't your average ski weeks — and they don't attract your average ski school population. This comprehensive, and expensive, program is for good skiers who like luxury living and congenial socializing. The package includes lodging in some of Vail's poshest places, high-intensity skiing with an elite international group of instructors drawn from the 800-member Vail Ski School, assorted evening activities, and a host of extras.

It is by no stretch wimp skiing. The weakest participants are solid intermediate skiers — and the top class shifts into overdrive for run after run of high-energy skiing, the steeper the terrain and the faster the turns the better. Rod Slifer, a long-time local realtor and former Vail mayor who plans another Wedel Week this year, is one of the no-slouch skiers who love the program.

Slifer, who inhabits Wedel Week's top class, once earned the respect of the Austrians on their home turf by skiing the fabled Mausefälle headwall on Kitzbühel's Hahnenkamm downhill course without a turn — something world-class racers are more likely to do than gray-haired businessmen. Kitzbühelers spoke in awe about the Bürgermeister from Vail who schussed one of the steepest pitches in the Alps — and it wouldn't surprise me if they speak of it still. Slifer says, "Before Wedel Week came along, I hadn't really worked on my skiing for years. When you live in a ski town, it's easy to rationalize not going skiing. When you sign up for this, it makes you do it."

When I sample ski schools, I usually get put into the highest class. Here I was two levels down — and I had to hustle to keep up. At 9:30 or 10 every morning, we'd climb onto high-speed chairs that rocketed us to the core of Vail's vast terrain in nine minutes and then ski for four or five hours with barely a pause. We worked on short-radius turns and long-radius turns, pistoned our knees through the bumps, threaded through the gates of a giant slalom course, and sailed into the powder whenever we could find it. A video camera was trained on us, and we discovered what we were doing right and wrong when we studied the tape on a monitor. We even sidled into a SyberVision booth to imprint in our minds perfect skiing form as demonstrated on tape by two of the Vail Ski School's top technicians and then tried to emulate it.

Sometime around two or three in the afternoon, we'd get around to lunch at some place with slick table service and a good wine list like the Cook Shack at Mid-Vail, Sweet Basil or Pepi's in the village, or Rafters at Beaver Creek. This

Wedel Weeks in Vail mix high-intensity skiing with lavish dining (this page) and daily on-snow fashion shows (opposite page).

crew not only dressed well and skied like the wind; they also weren't the burger and fries type. One day, when we decided not to break until the lifts closed at 3:30, we stopped for a late morning hot chocolate at the Mid-Vail cafeteria. Some of my classmates weren't quite sure how to go about this self-service business, and I concluded that they hadn't been in such a line since prep school. When Harry Frampton was in a similar situation six weeks after the October '87 crash, he remembers that his edgy classmates eschewed the cafeteria altogether but raced for the phones at every opportunity to call their brokers. People find different ways to warm up.

In mid-afternoon when we sat down not to eat but to dine, someone would order champagne as an aperitif. Red and white wines followed to accompany opulent and delicious lunches. Then my classmates would fight to pick up the check.

The class was pretty evenly divided between men and women, but I was the only female ever to ski after lunch, as well as the only female to wear the same outfit more than once. I thought I was sufficiently chic by unzipping the collar of my turtleneck to let my Golden Bear necklace show, a status signature which is to Vail what Vuitton or Gucci is to the wider world. My efforts were acknowledged by people whose Golden Bears were probably papas to my baby. The other women went après-ski shopping every afternoon. The next day, they'd appear in new outfits sporting such high-fashion labels as Bogner, Colmar and Peter Steinebronn, each one totally accessorized with coordinating hats, gloves, turtlenecks, sweaters, scarves, and fanny packs.

Harry Frampton, who now heads a Vail-based real estate development company, was mesmerized by the on-snow fashion show. "It drove me crazy about how much prettier the girls skied than the men," he recalls. "The men might have been stronger but it irritated me to death to see how pretty the ladies skied." The women were indeed stylish on skis as well as off, but I suspect the magic of all that fashion put the final gloss on their ski technique.

Long, lavish, liquid lunches are the rule not the exception among all the classes. One bunch of hotshots, who call themselves The Fast Group and do Wedel Week with superstar instructor Walt Chauner every year, are first on the chairlifts at 8:30, ski their brains out all day, and quit for a late lunch at the Lodge at Vail. Four bottles of wine is reputedly the minimum, blending lunch seamlessly into après-ski. This is an institution which is also a big part of the Wedel Week scene. "There's a group that comes in from Mexico City," recalls Rod Slifer. "The serious training starts at four."

Writers normally don't go anyplace in high season when the beautiful people are in evidence, but there I was, skiing my legs off in the company of BPs who could sink a couple of thou a day into looking grand. They may have been better heeled than any writer, except possibly Danielle Steele, Barbara Taylor Bradford, or James Michener, but they were good skiers and fun to be with as well. Never hold prosperity against anyone.

One afternoon Ulf, a Finnish ski instructor, invited his students and those one class above with Walt the American and one class below with Richard the Austrian over for drinks. Ulf's huge house was simply yet elegantly furnished with a combination of contemporary designer pieces and Scandinavian antiques, and the view was the stuff postcards are made of. How civilized it all was. Someone told me Vail founder Pete Seibert originally lived in that spot, and that Ulf and his wife had demolished Seibert's place to build their dream house. This is not the sort of domicile a ski instructor normally inhabits, even in Vail, so I asked one of the locals whom Ulf was married to. The response: "Maytag."

Evenings melted into a round of

merriment — a welcome reception and buffet here, a raclette party and fashion show there, spontaneous plans for a group to get together for dinner at the Alpenrose one evening or Cyrano's the next, and a knock-down, drag-out farewell dinner on the final night. This dinner isn't about fancy banquets or formal speeches. It's a time to let it all hang out. Class skits spoofed instructors or whatever else came to mind. An Englishman who had flown in from London specifically to tune up for an upcoming week of helicopter skiing in Canada's Bugaboos turned out to be a fabulous calypso singer. Other skits were outrageously witty, marvelously musical, or a bit bawdy, but all showed that the beautiful people pack hefty doses of inventiveness and talent.

I had a great deal of fun rubbing ski poles with Vail's BPs, and my skiing improved a lot too. A week in early December set me up splendidly for a winter which took me from California to Austria. This winter, Pepi is continuing his three Wedel Weeks in December and also launching Powder Weeks in January.

Claire Walter is Western Editor of Skiing Magazine *and lives in Boulder, Colorado. Her book,* The Best Ski Resorts in America *(Published by Randt & Company), won a Lowell Thomas Award as a top guidebook of 1988.*

Ski Facts

Pepi's Wedel Weeks will take place Nov. 26 to Dec. 3, Dec. 3 to 10, and Dec. 10 to 17. The price is $1,040 per person, double occupancy, or $1,265 single occupancy. The new Powder Week sessions are scheduled for Jan. 6 to 13 and Jan. 13 to 20, 1990, for $1,166 double or $1,400 single. All packages include lodging at the Gasthof Grammshammer, Lodge at Vail, Sonnenalp, or Hyatt Regency Beaver Creek, daily continental breakfast, lift tickets for Vail and Beaver Creek, ski instruction, and special evening events (a welcome reception and buffet, ski tips and films, a raclette party and Bogner fashion show, and a farewell dinner). Transportation is additional. For more information, contact Pepi's Wedel Weeks, Travel Desk, 231 East Gore Creek Drive, Vail, Colorado 81657; (800) 445-8245 out of state and (800) 433-8735 in Colorado.

David Lokey is a widely published advertising/resort photographer who has been based in Vail, Colorado (actually he lives up on a Mountain in a rural valley overlooking the Sawach mountain range about fifteen miles from Vail) for the past 10 years.

TUCSON:

by Wayne Washburn

It is a city as old as America, steeped in the traditions of a dozen cultures, and presented to the rest of the world as a modern metropolis of 650,000 people highly protective of their individualism. And while the city spreads itself over 495 square miles of what once was saguaros, barrel cacti and road runners looking for shade, the locals will tell you it is still a small town growing up.

Life Magazine, in a fit of questionable journalism, once captioned a photo of a major thoroughfare as "the ugliest street in the world." Even if it is true that there's no accounting for taste, there is a beauty inherent in the land that transcends the parking lots, the skyscrapers, the modern hotel complexes and the shopping centers. It permeates the chrome and glass with the spirit of other times remembered.

Somewhere in the old railroad yards of Tucson, Wyatt Earp and Doc Holliday ended the life of Pete Stilwell in one of the concluding chapters of a saga that began as a famous gunfight in Tombstone's O.K. Corral. But the west that the city once was is now little more than an illusion created upon the streets of "Old Tucson," a local theme park and the location for many motion picture and television westerns. Western decor and architecture are still popular themes within the city, but the designers and the builders have recognized that not everyone who visits expects to be attacked by marauding Apaches.

At the end of the towering Catalina mountains north of the city, bighorn sheep survey the Sheraton El Conquistador Resort from the heights of Pusch Ridge. Unaffected by civilization's march to the foot of their mountains, their world remains virtually unchanged by the intrusion of man. They are protected most effectively by the terrain in which they live.

There is little need to invade the desert

PHOTO: STEVEN MECKLER

PHOTOS: G. REID HELMS

THIS PAGE, CLOCKWISE, FROM TOP: De Grazia Gallery in the Sun; mariachis at La Fuente; shopping at Que Bonita; casual dining at the Big A near the University of Arizona; a Tucson sunset.
OPPOSITE PAGE, FROM LEFT: Tucson National Resort & Spa; Loews Ventana Canyon Resort.

Desert Splendor, City Charm

to study its wildlife. The Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum combines one of the world's foremost zoos with a comprehensive collection of desert flora and fauna only a few minutes drive from the center of the city. It is one of the few places in the world where you can study a Boojum tree and watch a beaver at work from under the surface of his pond.

Along the winding road from the desert floor to the top of Mount Lemmon, the tallest peak in the Catalina range, motorists experience scenery which they view in driving from Tucson to Alaska. A discolored patch of earth marring the underbelly of the Santa Rita mountains, to the south, is the nearly obliterated ghost town of Helvetia.

To the east of the city are the Rincon mountains with their precarious, but passable, ridgeback road to the present-day copper mining town of San Manuel. The road was once the route of the famous Butterfield stage. Follow the "ugliest street in the world" to the west, past "A" mountain, to Gates Pass and an unequalled panorama of wide open spaces.

"A" mountain played a significant part in the history of the city. According to some historians, the Pima Indian word for the black water that ran at the base of the hill was "Sluyk-son." The black water is no longer there, but the bastardization of the word remained to denote the city. The peak of the mountain served as a lookout point for, first, the Sobaipuri; then, Spanish missionaries and their armies that followed, and then frontier Americans.

There are no subways in this city, only wide streets of traffic less frantic than other cities of its size. It is a big, small town going about its business in what seems to be perpetual sunlight.

Despite the illusion that the city is always dry and sunny, the monsoons come thundering up from Mexico during July and August, filling the washes, sending torrents of fresh, cool waters to sprout new, green life along the desert floor.

Overnight, the sparse landscape is transformed by shades of green into a different world of wonder and beauty.

TUCSON

PHOTO: G. REID HELMS

THIS PAGE, CLOCKWISE: High tea at Loews Ventana Canyon Resort; desert golf; a rare sight in Tucson — snow. OPPOSITE PAGE, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Guacamole prepared tableside at Los Mayas; U of A football; shopping at Bambini e la donna Boutique; sand painting by a Native American.

PHOTO: STEVEN MECKLER

PHOTO: GILL KENNY

Flowers bloom, and grass grows high enough to tickle the belly of a horse.

Nowhere else on earth do saguaro cacti, hundreds of years old, lift their gigantic arms to the roaring thunderheads. And with the rains come the smells of mesquite, palo verde and creosote. During the winter, the Catalinas are often crested with snow, and occasionally the snow line descends to the desert floor, transforming the desert into yet another wonderland.

Unlike other growing population centers, there is little emphasis on curmudgeonry among the citizenry. As a matter of fact, there is a universal premium placed on the art of real western hospitality. It is a friendly hometown, proud of its University of Arizona campus. While the academics of this landmark of higher learning are respected in the eyes of the learned, its prowess with gridiron and hoop get the most vigorous local attention.

Enthusiams among sports fans runs rampant. Coaches often become national celebrities, some villains, and some a little of both. University of Arizona basketball coach, Lute Olson, is presently classified a hero, and rumor has it that there is an alumni movement afoot to have him bronzed.

The city seems to be overrun with heroes of all descriptions. It seems to attract them. Van Cliburn has a home in nearby midtown. Rumor has it the neighbors sometimes grumble about the piano playing but wouldn't think of getting in a snit about it.

And singer Willie Nelson whacks a few golf balls around Starpass when he's in town. Golf is a popular religion here. There are more than thirty reachable temples of the green where you can sacrifice a Saturday to the swings and putts of outrageous fortune.

Once every year, the city pays tribute to the cowboy with the world's longest horse-drawn parade. It is an occasion to trot out tack and whiffle-trees and wagon wheels that won the west. Self appointed vigilantes bushwhack unsuspecting tourists from Interstate 10 and treat them to the gol-dangdest rodeo they've ever seen. For days, the entire populace decks itself out in snakeskin boots and bolo ties and tries to swagger like John Wayne.

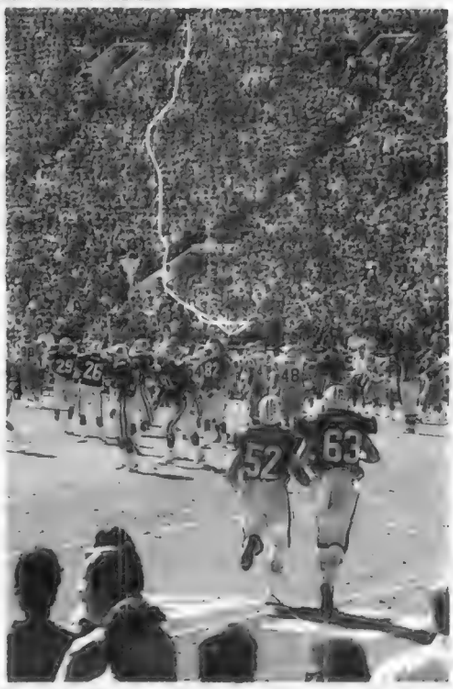
Real cowboys, of course, are pretty much a thing of the past. The faithful cow pony was long ago replaced by pickup trucks (known as cowboy Cadillacs), and what's left of the 4-40 longhorn is barely evident on a few barroom walls. Don't confuse a 4-40 with a .44 or the natives will know you're a tenderfoot. A 4-40 is a steer with a mouth four feet wide that can run forty miles an hour. Without those attributes it would be hard for the animal to survive in the southern Arizona desert.

Now, a .44 is a fine handgun, although you don't see many of them anymore. If you're looking for guns that won the west, the best place to find them is the Arizona State Museum near the University campus. Incidentally, you can still carry a gun in Tucson, even though not many people do. It must be in plain sight, and not carried into any place that sells liquor.

If there is one thing the local inhabitants have in common, it's a love of good food. The city speaks all the languages of fine cuisine: Japanese, Chinese, Greek, Mexican, French, Italian, and, naturally, western. The town is 300 miles away from Guaymas, the fishing capitol of

PHOTO: G. REID HELMS

PHOTO: TOM VENEKLASEN



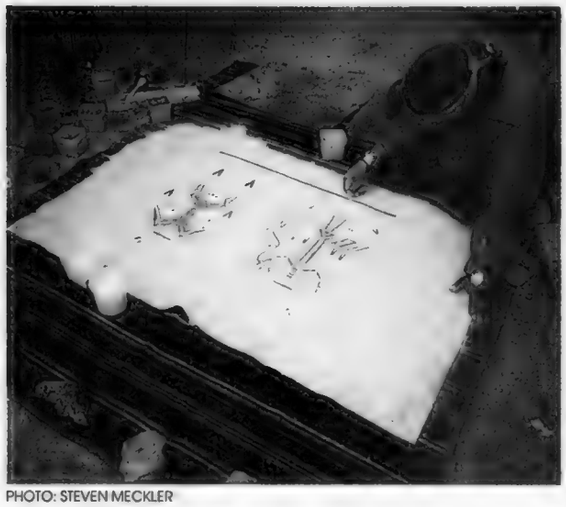


PHOTO: STEVEN MECKLER

PHOTO: G. REID HELMS

Mexico, and takes full advantage of jumbo shrimp, red snapper, abalone, and a hundred other varieties of fish caught the morning before.

While all nationalities, races, creeds and religions seem to be represented in the city, perhaps the strongest influence is Mexican. Without its Mexican art, music, dance, and language, the city would lose a great deal of its color and vibrance. The border crossings of Nogales or Agua Prieta are less than 90 minutes drive from downtown, and no visitor should miss the opportunity that Mexico has to offer.

To the people who live in the "Old Pueblo," Tucson has it all — the business climate, the opportunity for hundreds of varied recreations, the scenic beauty, the history, the food, the arts and the something-for-everyone claims made by every Chamber of Commerce. There is little exaggeration in it all. But in the final analysis, Tucson is a friendly hometown possessed by the charm of its past pressing hard into the future.

Few people who visit are ambivalent about the city. Those who love it will defend it to the death or the early hours of the morning, whichever comes first. Those who dislike it are quickly reminded of mosquitos, long-johns and anti-freeze of other climes. Both kinds arrive with their Nikons, business suits and golf caps only to depart with a sizable investment in Kodak, blue jeans, and a sense of relaxation that can only be acquired in the light of the city's most spectacular phenomenon. It is the sun, bidding a fond, most colorful goodnight to the desert and the mountains surrounding a city still called the "Old Pueblo."

The editors of The American West *have gleaned the following information from longtime Tucsonans to give you a real insider's view of the area. We have listed enough things to do and see and places to go to keep you busy for the better part of the season, any season. Try one or try them all. To know Tucson is to be out and moving around, letting the winter and spring sunshine gently embrace you.*

RESORTING TO THE BEST

Tucson is home to a fine array of destination resorts with breathtaking mountain views and first class accommodations and service. You can stay high in the foothills or in a more central location convenient to business centers. Telephone numbers are included for your convenience—*Tucson's area code is 602.*

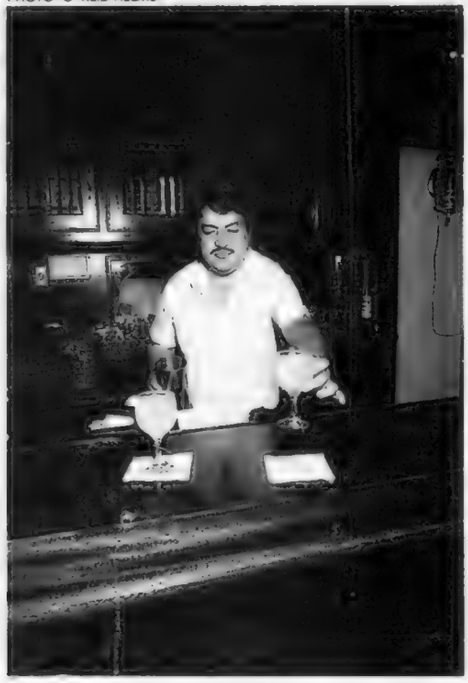
TUCSON

PHOTO: STEVEN MECKLER

THIS PAGE, CLOCKWISE: The Fourth Avenue Street Fair; frozen margaritas at Casa Molina; the Pima Air Museum. OPPOSITE PAGE, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Old Tucson; Mission San Xavier del Bac; the Tucson Rodeo; shopping at Maya Palace.

PHOTO: G. REID HELMS

PHOTO G. REID HELMS



Hacienda Del Sol provides a quiet, countrylike setting with your own private casita overlooking city lights and mountain panoramas. Gourmet dining in the restaurant also offers a lovely view. Therapy pool and tennis courts add to the relaxation of this foothill favorite near the Santa Catalina Mountains. *299-1501*. Centrally located, near Randolph Park with its championship golf course, the **Doubletree Hotel** has a swimming pool, tennis courts and exercise room on the property. It's situated close to the University of Arizona, and there are several restaurants on the grounds and shopping spots just minutes away. *881-4200*. **Tucson National Resort & Spa**, in a beautiful, secluded setting, offers a 27-hole championship golf course and international health spa with all sorts of pampering. *800-528-4856*. Nestled on 80 acres of Foothills property, **Westward Look Resort** is noted for its exquisite dining, city view and outstanding tennis. *297-1151*. The **Arizona Inn** is listed as one of the 300 best hotels in the world. Fourteen acres of lawn and seasonal flowers make this one of the prettiest places in town. And it's just minutes from anywhere. *325-1541*. Overlooking the city and described by more than one enthusiastic Tucsonan as a personal favorite, **Loews Ventana Canyon Resort** boasts an on-site PGA golf course, 10 tennis courts and a full complement of restaurants. Each room has an extra large dose of comfort — king-size bathtubs big enough for two. All this is on 93 acres so there's plenty of space! *299-2020*. Other classy resorts with golf and views are **The Westin La Paloma**, *742-6000*, and the **Sheraton Tucson El Conquistador Golf and Tennis Resort**, *742-7000*. For those wishing to stay closer to business activities, the **Viscount Suite Hotel** and the **Radisson Suite Hotel Tucson** offer quality surroundings at reasonable rates.

The **Tanque Verde Guest Ranch** is an historic dude ranch. A perfect family spot, there are horses for pack trips and breakfast rides. Dancing under the stars in the Cottonwood Grove and barbecue is big. *296-6275*. Otherwise known as bed and breakfasts, B & B's offer quaint alternatives to the posh destination resort atmosphere. **Bird In The Hand** in the Barrio Libre is furnished with Mexican antiques, paintings and sculptures. *622-5428*. **El Presidio**, also built in the 1870's, is decorated with some of the owners' collectibles. *623-6151*. Back in the '20's, renowned Tucson architect Josias Joesler built the Santa Fe style **La Posada Del Valle**. You might want to stay in Sophie's Room (named after the last of the Red Hot Mamas). *795-3840*. **The Peppertrees**, in the historic West University District just two blocks from the UA campus, is a restored Victorian home built in 1905. The owner has used antiques that belonged to her family in England. *622-7167*.

DINING IN TUCSON

Tucson has restaurants to tempt every

PHOTO: STEVEN MECKLER

PHOTO: GILL KENNY

PHOTO: G. REID HELMS

PHOTO: STEVEN MECKLER

palate. The following are well-known and popular, but certainly do not tell the whole story of dining in Tucson. For a complete list and further comment, pick up the City Guide published quarterly by *Tucson Lifestyle Magazine*. It can be found at the airport information center, hotel concierge desks and numerous restaurants.

ROOMS WITH A VIEW

There are many candidates for "the" Tucson restaurant whose elegance, mood and superb food combine to make dining out a total experience. **The Ventana Room** at Loews Ventana Canyon Resort provides one of the best views of the city along with music by a harpist. The roast loin of venison with cranberries and smoked pear sauce comes highly recommended. Not to be missed: the chef's signature dessert — white and dark chocolate mousse in a caramel cup nestled in créme anglaise. *299-2020*. Beautiful china and table linens were especially ordered for **Anthony's in the Catalinas** to create a sumptuous ambiance from the beginning of the meal to the complimentary aperitif served at its conclusion. The food is good; the view is magnificent. *299-1771*. It may be hard to believe, but there is good fresh fish in Tucson. **La Villa** at The Westin La Paloma is one place to find it. Shrimp in a tequila butter sauce is well worth the calories. Speaking of calories, don't miss the chocolate pecan pie. *742-6000*. Superb Caesar salad, excellent veal dishes and spectacular flaming desserts make the **Gold Room** at Westward Look a nice choice for a special dress-up dinner. All that and a piano too. *297-1151*.

DESERT DINING

The fresh fish at **The Olive Tree** is "town renowned," although the restaurant is primarily Greek. Many locals put this restaurant at the top of their list. Don't miss the saganaki flambé for an appetizer. *298-1845*. Driving to **Scordato's on**

TUCSON

PHOTO: G. REID HELMS

THIS PAGE, FROM TOP: Dining at The Olive Tree; the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum.

OPPOSITE PAGE, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Bisbee, the perfect destination for a day trip; Kitt Peak National Observatory; romantic dining at Anthony's in the Catalinas.

PHOTO: STEVEN MECKLER

Speedway can be a breathtaking experience as the sun sets over the Tucson Mountains. Terrific Italian cuisine and an extensive wine list make the trip worthwhile. Best bet: Costolette alla Milanese (veal with lemon). *624-8946*. **DaVinci's** crowded and lively atmosphere attracts all ages for possibly the largest portions of Italian food in the city. One of the recommended pastas: Scoglia (spaghetti with clams, mussels & shrimp)...House dessert: Tiramisu, an espresso cake with Italian cookies soaked in liqueurs. Homemade whipped cream and cocoa top it off. *881-0947*. **Janos** is a trendsetting French restaurant in downtown Tucson. Worth the drive to see its historic building. Have your waiter recap the Hiram Stevens story — he attempted to murder his wife in one of the very rooms where you might enjoy lobster braised in champagne sauce with papaya. *884-9426*. The only 5-star restaurant in the western United States and one of nine in the country, **The Tack Room** offers elegant dining in an old southwestern hacienda. Specialties include: rack of lamb Sonora — prepared with mesquite honey, cilantro, lime juice and garlic. Also Arizona Four-Pepper Steak — filet mignon with anaheim, cerrano, jalapeño and sweet peppers with Zinfandel demi-glaze. *722-2800*. Call ahead to reserve the roast duckling with Grand Marnier and green pepper corn sauce at **Capriccio**. The atmosphere does not lend itself to intimate dining, but the Italian food is delicious. Pasta appetizers are prepared tableside. *887-2333*. Black and white tile floors and an imaginative menu combine to give **Presidio Grill** a cosmopolitan, yet casual feel. Grilled Santa Fe chicken with tomatillo sauce served with blue corn pancakes is a popular item. *327-4667*. A longtime favorite with Tucsonans is **The Palomino**, run for many years by the Gekas family. Memorable: veal piccata. *795-5561*. Cowboy steaks and western atmosphere can be found at **El Corral** *299-6092* and **Pinnacle Peak** *296-0911*. Dudes and dudettes who make the mistake of wearing ties to the latter get them cut off.

LET THEM EAT BRAN FLAKES

Cafe Melange is a melting pot of business men, runners and cyclists all wolfing down healthy breakfasts. Gumbee's Garden consists of fresh vegetables topped with cheese & poached eggs. Whole wheat pancakes and Mexican fare are also available. *298-2233*. A virtual blizzard of blintzes, pancakes and crépes are available at **Millie's West Pancake Haus**. Millie ran a popular restaurant in Wisconsin, moved to Tucson to retire, then started Millie's instead. In her eighties, she has since moved on to Florida where she still helps at a Millie's there. *298-4250*. Waiting for a table at the **Blue Willow Restaurant, Bakery and Poster Gallery** is half the fun. Browse around for an unusual card or a dozen cookies in the funky gift shop and bakery. Dining al fresco on a heated patio in the winter is a pleasant treat. Don't miss the Blue Willow Special. *795-8736*. An innovative menu and a breakfast buffet get rave reviews at **Canyon Cafe** at Loews Ventana Resort. Definitely not a steak and eggs place in atmosphere or price, the kitchen is very accommodating to eclectic tastes and diets. *299-2020*.

ETHNIC O'VERVIEW

El Charro is an Old Pueblo fixture, serving south-of-the-border-style Mexican food in the historic El Presidio part of town. Best bet: chili con queso soup. *622-5465*. Check out South 4th Avenue for Mexican food that many Tucsonans swear by. Don't dress up at **Micha's**, *623-*

PHOTO: STEVEN MECKLER

PHOTO: G. REID HELMS

PHOTO: G. REID HELMS

5307, **Double L**, 792-1585 or **Mi Nidito**, 622-9303. **La Fuente** is like a dash across the border with typical Mexican specialties. Strolling mariachis serenade you at your table and are happy to strum your requests. 623-8659. The Molina family has been serving unbeatable margaritas and cheese crisps with everything (be sure to get the one with carne seca) since 1947. They have three locations, each with its own personality: **Casa Molina**, 886-5468, **Molina's Midway**, 325-9957, **Casa Molina del Norte**, 795-7593. Chinese food is uneven in Tucson, but **Hunan** 323-3737 and **New Peking** 297-8080 continue to uphold their long-standing quality. Mongolian Beef is a sure-fire winner at either location. **Lotus Garden** is also frequented by locals. 298-3351.

TUCSON NIGHTS

Tucson *does* have night life and it's as diverse as the city itself. What follows is merely a quick look at some clubs and activities in town. For more complete listings, refer to the *Tucson Weekly*, an arts and entertainment newspaper. **Laffs Comedy Club & Cafe** has stand-up comics à la Improv and Comedy Store. Try **Obsessions** for upscale evening entertainment with live jazz. And a real hot spot is **Javelina Cantina** at The Doubletree Hotel where you can dance in the casual setting of a Mexican "bandito" hideout. Complimentary Mexican appetizers served during "Cheers Hour." Go early, it gets crowded.

Enjoy a blast from the past with 50's and 60's hits at **Studebaker's** of Tucson, located in the Tucson Galleria. And, speaking of blasts, there's plenty of live — and loud — D.J. music at the **Flying V**, located at Loews Ventana Canyon Resort. Move through the throngs gathered in the doorway of **The Board Room** and grab a stool at the circular bar for great people-watching while keeping an eye on your favorite sports event. There's a similar atmosphere at the **San Francisco Bar and Grill Brew Pub** where you can watch beer being brewed. **Rialto's** has loads of room to dance and boasts the biggest dance floor in town, with DJ and a mega sound system. There are plenty of places around town to listen to live music, including **Chicago Bar, Berky's, Cushing Street Bar & Restaurant, Café Sweetwater, The Spinnaker** and **The Maverick. El Parador** features great flamenco guitar while you dine.

Tucson is home to opera — both light and otherwise — and theater — amateur and professional. **SALOC**, Arizona's only resident musical comedy theater, performs four different musicals each season. Then there's the **Arizona Theatre Company** for a variety of professional

continued on page 62

Cacomistle, or ringtail cat.

PHOTOS: ERWIN AND PEGGY BAUER

A Christmas Creature Nobody Knows

by Erwin A. Bauer

While photographing in the New Mexico mountains during the early 1950s, I met a man who kept a most unusual wild pet. It lived in his modest Mogollon Mountains cabin and traveled along everywhere in his pickup truck. Sarge (not his real name) even claimed that the small animal — a cacomistle or ringtail cat — had saved his life. I've never forgotten his poignant story.

During World War II, Sarge served in the South Pacific and was badly wounded during the fighting for Iwo Jima. Shipped home to the United States where he did not have a single, living relative, he spent a year recuperating in military hospitals. Sarge's wife had run away with the preacher who had married them, while Sarge was still overseas.

Although finally mended physically, the ex-soldier still wasn't really ready for civilian life. He lost a couple of jobs and twice was kicked out of town for brawling. He remembers sitting in his shack, bitter and desperate, one lonely Christmas Eve, getting drunk and feeling sorry for himself. So sorry, in fact, that he decided to commit suicide. That's when he heard the small creature he had been feeding outside, scratching at his door.

Sarge opened the door and for the first time the cacomistle came warily inside on a gust of powder snow. Next thing he knew, Sarge was feeding his visitor chunks of stale fruitcake. He doesn't remember turning out the lantern or falling into bed.

Christmas morning, Sarge awoke in a cold cabin with a terrible hangover. The first thing he noticed was the ringtail curled in a corner atop a pile of old boots, sleeping. Then he felt the pistol at his elbow and that was sobering. Pulling on pants, Sarge threw the weapon as far as he could out into the drifted snow.

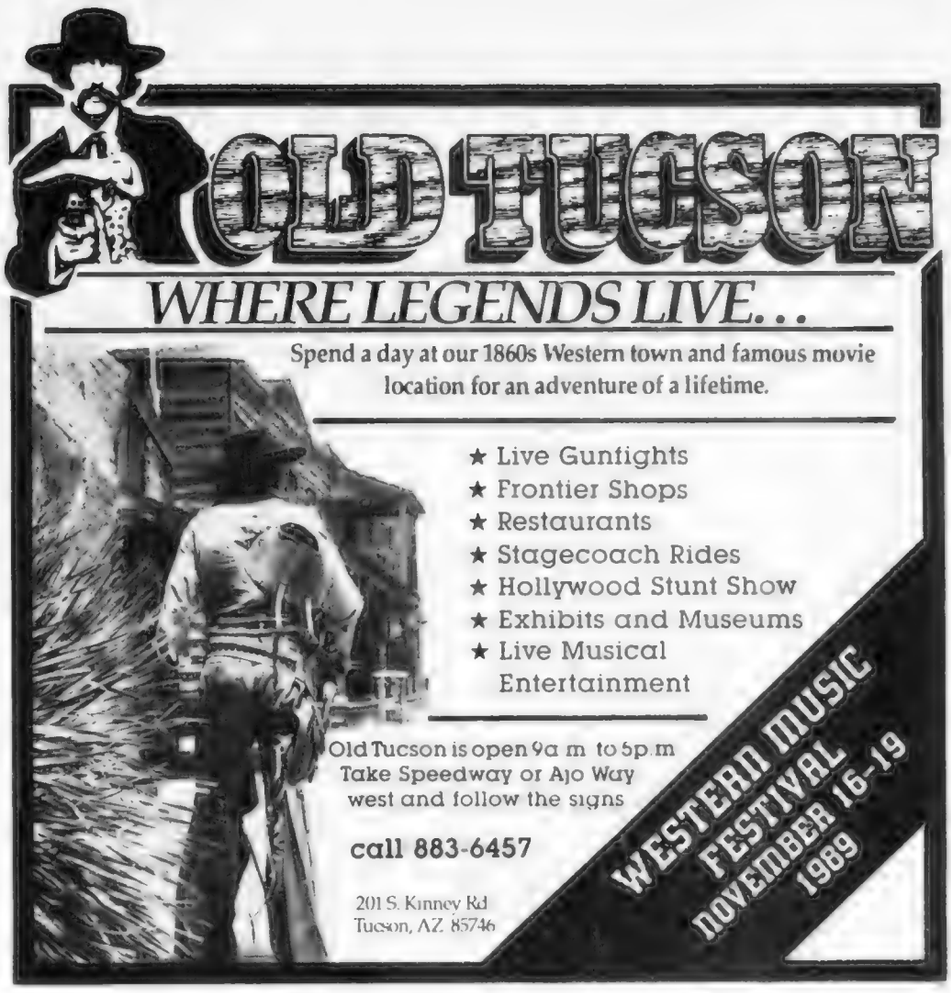
Although cacomistles are fairly abundant in their range (from Texas west to Arizona and north to Utah), this cat-sized native carnivore, which somewhat resembles a small fox with a raccoon tail, is mostly nocturnal and extremely shy. Not many residents of the Southwest have ever seen a wild one. Ringtails are unique in their ability to rotate hind feet at least 180 degrees, giving them agility and traction enough to permit descending the steepest cliffs, tree trunks, or cabin walls head first. They are as quick and nimble as only a two-pound four-footed creature can be.

Traditionally, miners and prospectors are better acquainted with cacomistles than anyone, hence the common name, miner's cat. To have one hanging around a cabin was considered good fortune; it meant the dwelling would be free of mice, snakes, scorpions, roaches and other troublesome insects.

I have no idea what happened to Sarge or his cacomistle. He stopped answering letters a few years after I first talked to him. But last Christmas season, I met another man who also kept a pet cacomistle. Stanley Clayton, a retired school superintendent of Marble Falls, Texas, raised his "cat" from a tiny, abandoned kit. He named it Chatter for the peculiar noise it makes. The animal grew up in Clayton's apartment and has made an auto trip with him to visit a daughter in Dubois, Wyoming.

One cool December afternoon, Clayton, my wife Peggy, and I drove to the nearby ranch of our friends Murry and Jolene Burnham where we found the colors of the yule season — bright green cedars and red-berried yaupon bushes — growing close together. That's where we made the accompanying Christmas photograph of a creature nobody really knows. All the while, I wondered about old Sarge.

Erwin Bauer and his wife Peggy are authors of the travel-photography guide, "Photographing the North American West." Available from Travel-Adventure-Outdoors, Box 543, Teton Village, WY 83025.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THE AMERICAN WEST - PENTAX

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A PENTAX 645 camera and accessories worth $2,500 will be awarded as the Grand Prize to the winner of THE AMERICAN WEST's Seventh Annual Celebrate-the-West Photo Contest. First Prize is a PENTAX IQ Zoom camera worth $385. Photographs of Western people, places, still lifes, animals, and events are all eligible in this open-class photo contest. Photos will be judged by a panel comprised of the editor-in-chief and art director of THE AMERICAN WEST and a distinguished outside professional photographer. Photos will be evaluated on originality, quality, and technique within the Celebrate-the-West theme.

In addition to the Grand Prize and First Prize provided by PENTAX in THE AMERICAN WEST Seventh Annual Photo Contest, three cash prizes of $100 each will be awarded. Winning photographs will appear in the June 1990 issue of THE AMERICAN WEST.

PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST/Official Entry

Send to: THE AMERICAN WEST Photo Contest
7000 E. Tanque Verde Rd., Suite 30, Tucson, AZ 85715
(Please type or print)

Name_____

Address_____

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Daytime telephone (___) _____ Number of Photographs____

(Up to 3 photographs may be submitted.) Enclose $3 entry fee.

Please read the Contest Rules carefully.

1989 Grand Prize: PENTAX 645 Camera, 80-160 Zoom Lens, 120-Film Back. Retail value is $2,500.

CONTEST RULES

ELIGIBILITY

The contest is open to anyone except employees of THE AMERICAN WEST and PENTAX and their relatives. Previously published photos or ones pending publication will not qualify.

ENTRIES

You may submit up to 3 photos on a Western subject, which will be judged on originality, quality, and technique. Be sure to enclose the official entry form (or a 3" x 5" facsimile) giving your name, address, daytime telephone number, and total number of photographs entered. There is a single entry fee of $3 per participant, whether you enter 1 or 3 photos. Make check or money order payable to "THE AMERICAN WEST Photo Contest." THE AMERICAN WEST acquires the right to publish and use for exhibit or promotion all winning photographs.

Photographs may be either black-and-white or color and are not to exceed 8" x 12" in size. All photographs will be judged together. Please do NOT send slides or other transparencies. Send prints only. Do NOT send photos mounted in glass. If your color photograph is judged one of the five prize-winning finalists, you will need to provide THE AMERICAN WEST with a color transparency for reproduction in the magazine. Each photograph must be clearly marked on the back with the name, address, and daytime telephone number of the photographer, the place the photo was taken, and the type of camera and film used, along with any special lenses, equipment, or techniques. Model releases must accompany all photos that include identifiable people.

LIABILITY

A stamped, self-addressed envelope of sufficient size and with sufficient postage (no metered postage) must accompany your photographs for their return. Include cardboard to protect your photos. THE AMERICAN WEST is not responsible for material lost or damaged in the mail.

DEADLINE

Your entry must be postmarked by midnight of December 31, 1989. Late entries will be returned unopened. Send to: THE AMERICAN WEST Photo Contest, 7000 E. Tanque Verde Rd., Suite 30, Tucson, AZ 85715.

Chronicle West

1989 November YESTERDAY • TODAY • TOMORROW December 1989

The Rescue of the Handcart Pioneers

by Walter R. Haefele

Illustration courtesy of the The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, Church Archives.

This sketch by G.C.A. Christensen depicts the Handcart Pioneers reaching camp.

In the summer of 1856, almost 2000 emigrant men, women and children from Europe piled their belongings onto two-wheeled handcarts in Iowa City, Iowa, and pushed them 1300 miles across the Great Plains to Salt Lake valley in Utah.

Five companies of 300 to 600 people each made the arduous crossing. Tired but safe, three of these groups arrived in Utah before summer ended. The other two companies, more than 1000 people altogether, left Iowa late in the summer and suffered pitifully in the wilderness of Wyoming, when an unusally early winter blanketed the state with heavy snow.

This is the story of Captain Edward Martin's company, the last of the five groups to leave Iowa.

Their long journey started on a warm, bright Sunday in May, 1856. On that day, the ship "Horizon" sailed from Liverpool, England, for Boston with 856 starry-eyed religious converts aboard. They traveled from Boston to the end of the railroad in Iowa City, Iowa, to begin the long trek across the plains.

In Iowa, each family loaded its few belongings onto light handcarts built on the spot. Though they had lost three precious weeks waiting for the carts to be built, they were in high spirits. They refused to be daunted by the 1300 miles of uninhabited plains and mountains that lay between them and Utah.

There were other problems. Most of the immigrants were poor and city-bred. They had no money to buy wagons and oxen, and few skills that would help them on the trail. There were many children, and more than half of the men were between 35 and 55 years of age. Three men were veterans of the Battle of Waterloo 43 years before!

The other two companies, more than 1000 people altogether, left Iowa late in the summer and suffered pitifully in the wilderness of Wyoming, when an unusally early winter blanketed the state with heavy snow.

Almost 300 who were too old, too ill or too faint-hearted dropped out in the small Iowa hamlets, as the eager immigrants pushed and pulled their carts along the first 300 miles of dusty dirt tracks to the Missouri River. Each five-foot cart held the belongings and bedding of five people, who slept with others in large tents and ate food hauled in six big commissary wagons. It was a time of testing — of sunburn, blisters, broken axles, collapsing cart wheels, learning to pitch tents, cooking on the trail.

By the time the remaining 576 immigrants crossed the Missouri River, they were hardened to handcart travel.

They paused for a few days in the little town of Florence, Nebraska, to strengthen and repair carts. More experienced now, they discarded some of their excess baggage and replaced it with food.

But the belated sailing from England and the delay in Iowa to build handcarts had been costly. It was now Aug. 25. Many of the company wondered openly about the wisdom of crossing the mountains so late in the year.

see Pioneers on page 2

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Pioneers

continued from page 1

They talked it out in a mass meeting. Some argued that four companies of handcarts pioneers were on the trail ahead of them and that the fourth company was only 10 days ahead. If necessary, they could get help from these companies. Others of the immigrants, especially those who had young children, wanted to build cabins in Nebraska and wait until spring. But when the time for voting came, not many refused to go.

A few days later, determined hands were pushing the carts westward along the track worn in the earth by tens of thousands of pioneers before them. The weather was pleasant and none foresaw the consequences of their late start.

Their pace was slower than expected. The older immigrants tired easily. The flimsy carts broke down under the heavy loads. Some of the oxen needed for hauling and many cattle needed for food were stampeded by buffalo and lost. After that, each cart had to carry an additional weight of food. When delay followed delay, their captain cut the daily food ration to three quarters of a pound per person.

A small party of travelers hurrying westward to Salt Lake valley on mules caught up with Martin's company in central Nebraska. They left what little food they could spare and promised to press on westward past Willie's company to pass the word about the immigrants' condition.

The going was rougher as Martin's company neared the upper Platte River in western Nebraska. By the time they rested their weary feet at Fort Laramie in southeastern Wyoming, it was early October.

This small fort could not possibly feed 500 extra mouths all winter. The immigrants just had to go on. They bought what provisions the fort could spare and pressed on after Willie's company, which had left 10 days before. As they trudged slowly to the northwest, Captain Martin cut their food allowance to a half pound per day per person.

On the 17th of October, they dragged their carts up to the westward crossing of the North Platte River near present-day Casper, Wyoming. It was obvious to all of them that they were weakening. Because they were tired and the weather had been warm, many of them had thrown away blankets and excess clothing, in spite of their captain's warnings. The stage was set for the second act of the tragedy.

Suddenly, the wind blew cold. The waist-deep river was dotted with floating ice and mushy snow from the icy mountains upstream. Crossing the swift-flowing river was exhausting. It took all the strength they had and soaked everyone with freezing water. On the other side of the river, the wintry wind blew hail in their faces and froze their clothes. Then the snow began to fall.

Fourteen people died that night from the after-effects of the terrible crossing. After morning burials in the muddy ground, the half-frozen pioneers struggled on alongside the Sweetwater River through the white curtain of falling snow. As the snow on the trail deepened, travel became more difficult. Finally, on the third day after the crossing, they could go no farther. Their carts were strung out for several miles in the swirling snow.

To get food, some wanted to send word to Captain Willie's handcart company, which had left Fort Laramie 10 days before they arrived. But sober thought made them realize that Willie had 400 mouths of his own to feed. He would have no food to spare. The inescapable fact was that the nearest food and shelter for so many people was in Salt Lake valley, more than 400 miles ahead, beyond the snow-crusted crest of the Rocky Mountains.

This small fort could not possibly feed 500 extra mouths all winter.

That night, the temperature dipped below zero. There were deaths from weakness and extreme cold in almost every tent. During the next six snowbound days of bitter cold, their captain led burial services for more than 50 men, women and children whose suffering had been more than they could bear.

Then, when all hope seemed gone, three men on horses plastered with snow rode toward them out of the icy whiteness to the west. The men shouted that a relief party from Salt Lake valley with food and blankets in its wagons was camped only 20 miles upstream at Devil's Gate.

As the hollow-eyed immigrants stood around them, the rescuers told of still other wagons crawling toward them from Salt Lake. The rescuers cajoled and argued and shouted — anything to help Captain Martin start his numbed people moving up the river. Ever so slowly, almost unable to help themselves any longer, the immigrants formed a line moving westward up the hill.

Two days later, as the long column of carts crept through the snow at Independence Rock, the exhausted people cheered feebly when they saw 10 rescue wagons coming down the river trail toward them. The second act of the tragedy was over.

From the rescuers they heard that the messengers who had passed them in Nebraska had hurried on to Salt Lake valley, arriving there on Oct. 7. They arrived just behind three other handcart companies that had left Iowa in July.

When the leaders in the valley heard of the poor condition and dwindling food supply of Willie's and Martins' companies, they organized a rescue operation. Though the two handcart companies were more than 400 miles away over the mountains, men dropped their tools, filled their wagons with food and blankets and started off.

Through almost constant snow and the severe cold of an unusually early winter, hundreds of rescuers forced their way eastward over the roadless mountains, timing their departures to provide continuous succor for the immigrants. By the end of October, more than 250 teams were on their way to aid the helpless immigrants.

Because a third of Martin's company at Independence Rock could no longer walk, the rescuers loaded them into wagons and hauled them upstream to Devil's Gate. There the ground was frozen so hard they could hardly drive in tent pegs. Night temperatures fell below zero and falling snow immobilized them again. There were more deaths. When other immigrant wagons rolled in from the east, Devil's Gate was crowded with almost 1,000 half-frozen men, women and children.

But three days later, the weather improved, and the wagon train crept westward up the river. Almost gladly, the immigrants abandoned their handcarts and cached everything but the clothing on their backs. The children, the sick and those crippled by frozen feet rode in the wagons. Their food almost gone, the immigrants inched their way upstream through snow and ice for nine days until they met four more rescue wagons loaded with flour.

Still more supply wagons met them as they toiled uphill through deep snow to the crest of the Rocky Mountains at South Pass.

The struggle seemed like an eternity. During that one terrible month of continuous snow and cold weather they had managed to flounder westward only 150 miles.

At the end of November, 11 days after crossing South Pass, 104 wagons loaded with almost helpless human cargos emerged from Emigrant Canyon into the Salt Lake valley. The long ordeal was over.

Of the 576 people whom Captain Martin led across the Missouri River in August, 150 had died during the journey. Captain Willie's company, which had been rescued from a similar plight just a few miles ahead of Martin's company, buried nearly 70 of their 400 in graves along the trail. The stumps of missing fingers and toes on many of the survivors bore mute witness to their terrible ordeal.

Seldom has our world seen the courage and self-sacrifice shown by these hundreds of men from Salt Lake valley. They left their comfortable homes for more than a month and drove wagons through 800 miles of snow-covered mountains to aid 1000 helpless people they had never seen.

Their acts of endurance and compassion serve as an inspiration for future generations.

Walter R. Haefele, a retired PhD in chemistry, is a freelance writer who has written extensively on the history of the American West.

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When a Stamp Was Only a Penny

The mailman in this photograph, taken in 1912, is Fred L. Evans, delivering mail along Route 1, in the Wilder-Greenleaf area of Canyon County, Idaho. The post office was in Antrim's General Store in the town of Greenleaf, and Evans would have to travel into town from his ranch near Wilder to pick up the mail before he set out on his delivery route.

Due to the length of the route, part of the mail had to be kept overnight at Evans' home and delivered the following day. This was the only rural route in the United States for which the government made such a concession and it placed a considerable amount of responsibility on Evans' shoulders for safeguarding the post while it was in his possession.

When this photograph was taken, it cost only one cent to mail a letter. The rural mail carrier of 1912 was paid the stupendous amount of $20 a week. Out of that amount, he had to furnish his own uniforms, horse and wagon, as well as buy feed and pay for repairs to his rig. And as the picture shows, roads were not paved, and the rough gravel and potholes that developed during rainy weather were hard on buggy wheels and wagon springs.

It is apparent that Fred Evans was a very conscientious mailman and kept his rig in tiptop condition. His horse too appears to have enjoyed the best of care and he himself looks very official in his neatly pressed uniform, unlike the modern rural delivery mailman, who probably drives a pickup and delivers the mail in blue jeans and a plaid shirt.

Fred Evans was very proud of this picture and planned for some time to send it to *American West Magazine* .unfortunately, he died of cancer before he could complete a narrative to accompany it, and the photo was subsequently submitted by his son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Paul B. Evans of Boise, Idaho.

THE AMERICAN WEST offers twenty-five dollars to any reader whose Remembering The past Photo is accepted for publication on this page. We seek old photographs that tell stories of bygone times. We'll take good care of your pictures and return them promptly. Be sure to pack the snapshots carefully and enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Send submissions to THE AMERICAN WEST, Remembering The Past, 7000 E. Tanque Verde Rd., Suite 30, Tucson, Arizona 85715.

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AROUND THE WEST

TRAVEL TIPS

In-Flight Medical Emergency Coverage

America West Airlines (not to be confused with this publication) has announced an agreement with MedAire, Inc., to receive 24 hour-a-day "**MedLink**" emergency medical consultation for its airborne passengers and crew. The service will allow pilots to speak directly to an emergency-care physician via their cockpit radio in the event of an in-flight emergency. The airline is the first major airline to offer the coverage, according to the company.

Portable Blender

Do you blend into a crowd? The **VitaMinder Company** can't help you. Do you wish you could blend your own powdered drinks when traveling? You're in luck. VitaMinder has a battery-powered portable blender compact enough to use in transit. The mixer blends all powdered protein, diet or nutritional drinks fast and thoroughly directly in the glass and comes with its own carrying case. Contact the company at 27722 El Lazo Road, Laguna Niguel, CA., 92656.

Weathered Number

You're sitting in Maui wondering about the weather in Winnemucca. A burning desire if ever there was one. The extinguisher is but a phone call away — 1-*900-WEATHER*. Call 24 hours a day for local weather, updated hourly, and extensive three-day forecasts for more than 600 locations in the U.S. and around the world. Also, boating reports in the summer and ski and highway conditions in the winter. All that is required — now that you have the number — is a touch-tone phone, $.75 per minute and the need to know.

New Air Service Into Sun Valley

Beginning Saturday, Dec. 16, **America West Airlines** offers regularly scheduled service into Boise and Sun Valley, Idaho, from Las Vegas. Service will operate Wednesdays through Sundays. At the same time, the airline will begin non-stop service from Los Angeles to Sun Valley every Saturday. Contact the airline at *(800) 247-5692*.

TOUR DE WEST

Gonna Take A Sentimental Journey!

Re-live the glamour, romance and luxury of air travel in the '40's as you climb aboard your DC-3, "the Grand Old Lady of Aviation," and soar over the spectacular sights of San Francisco Bay. While aloft, you'll enjoy delicious hors d'oeuvres and complimentary beverages served by flight attendants in vintage uniforms, as Big Band music completes the trip into nostalgia. Included on the flight plan: Coit Tower, Alcatraz, Fisherman's Wharf, Sausalito and more. One-hour sky tours and sunset flights by **Sentimental Journeys Sky Tours** ($100 per person) at *(415) 667-3800* or within California (800) *634-1165*. Departure is from Oakland International Airport.

Gondola Getaway

Did you know there were canals in Long Beach, California? Certainly a better option than fighting traffic on the 405 Freeway. Here's a chance to get into your very own gondola and glide through the scenic canals of an area called Naples Island. Listen to the strains of "O Solo Mio" while your gondolier guides you slowly through the narrow canals. Chilled wine and fresh French bread with assorted cheeses in an appropriate woven basket add to the romantic mood. The one-hour cruises are available from **Gondola Getaway** ($45 for two persons). And if there are more of you, you can also get a larger gondola. *(213) 433-9595*.

Circle the Wagons!

It's the real thing with **Wagon Ho's** covered wagon trips near Phoenix, Arizona, especially created to relive pioneer days, complete with "real pioneers" as your guides. Gather 'round the evening campfire and get into the mood with some good ol'fashioned cowboy grub, homemade bread and coffee in an enamel pot suspended over the coals (just like the movies!), guitar singin' and a little banjo music. Your first glimpse of the Old West is from your vantage point atop the spring seat of an authentic wagon pulled by harnessed horses and mules while a guide explains things "along the trail." You'll spend the night at the Hassayampa River (where legend has it that, if you drink the water, you'll never tell the truth again!) before coming home and "back to reality." There's a two day trip ($460 per person, including meals) and longer ones, too, between now and mid-May of 1990. *(602) 230-1801*.

Up, Up and Away!

Float in your beautiful balloon above the magnificent vineyards of California's famed Napa Valley. **Once In A Lifetime Balloon Company's** one-hour scenic flights ($150 per person) begin in Calistoga, renowned for its fine wineries, magnificent vineyards and hot mineral baths. To get you in the mood, you'll take off from such famous wineries as Hanns Kornell Champagne Cellars and Franciscan Vineyards. Be ready to get up early (ballooning is best at sunrise!). And when you get back to earth, celebrate your flight with a gourmet brunch, complete with — what else? — champagne. You also get a photo of your flight and an official flight certificate. *(707) 942-6541* or (in California) *(800) 722-6665*.

Dive, Dive, Dive!

Instead of the usual snorkel and scuba approach to a view of the wondrous mysteries of the deep, how about taking a submarine? Board the brand new **Atlantis Submarine** off the shores of Waikiki for a tour of the private underwater world of brightly-colored fish, exotic marine and, yes, even a sunken ship and wrecked airplane or two. You get to the dive site by way of a catamaran and sail back to the pier via Diamond Head the same way. The two hour excursion (at $67 per person) starts at the Port Hilton pier at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Hotel. *(808) 522-1705*.

Passengers get an upclose and personal view of the ocean floor, with brilliantly colored fish, coral reefs and a sunken ship.

"Training With The Kids"

Kids of all ages can meet Santa and his elves who have abandoned their sleigh to hitch a ride on the **Cadillac & Lake City Railway** in Falcon, Colorado (near Colorado Springs) on Dec. 10 for a special Christmas Party! And, if you liked "Murder On the Orient Express," you can do some sleuthing of your own aboard "Showtrain' 89," a melodrama-and-mystery dinner train featuring "murder" on board. *(719) 495-2223*.

THINGS TO DO, SEE AND KNOW

Cowboy Classics

Break out your best duds and head to Phoenix for this show and sale of fine western art and gear - saddles, bits, spurs, engraved jewelry, braidwork, paintings, drawings, sculptures and photography. Also, **Western Wit and Wisdom**, an evening of cowboy poetry, traditional music and storytelling is scheduled for Dec. 30, 1989 with open poetry sessions running from Dec. 28 - Jan. 1, 1990. All this happens at the **Arizona National Livestock Show** in Phoenix. *(602) 258-8568*.

Cowboy Christmas Gathering

It appears those cowboys really like story telling get-togethers. The purpose of this gathering in Wickenburg, Arizona, is to bring together cowboys, ranchers and others in the cattle and horse business for a celebration of the present, not to pay homage to a vanishing or dying breed. Three full days of recitin', singin' and dancin' are planned, along with art shows and special exhibits. *(602) 684-5479*.

Talk About A Hot Time!

"**Inside Active Volcanoes: Kilauea and Mount St. Helens,**" a new traveling exhibit from the Smithsonian Institution, begins its nationwide tour with a stay at the New Mexico Museum of Natural History in Albuquerque, New Mexico, Oct. 21-Jan. 14, 1990. The exhibit examines 75 years of scientific research into those awesome natural forces. Other western cities on the tour include Honolulu, Seattle,

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AROUND THE WEST

Denver, San Francisco and Los Angeles. *(202) 357-2627.*

Inducting Cowboys

A new organization formed by the merger of the Rodeo Historical Society and the Pro Rodeo Historical Society plans to induct several new honorees into the Rodeo Hall of Fame at the National Cowboy Hall of Fame in Oklahoma City. Beginning at 10 a.m., Nov. 26, and lasting thoughout the morning, the event coincides with the Steer Roping Finals in Guthrie on Nov. 24 and 25. *(405) 478-2250.*

To Model Your Trains

The **Mesa Southwest Museum**, in Mesa near Phoenix, will display all facets of model railroading from early tinplate toy trains to scale model reproductions in its changing gallery Nov. 17-Feb. 26. Fine art, old photographs and railroad objects from Arizona's railroad history are also included, as well as several running models. *(602) 834-2169.*

Oregon Fashion History

Oregon's role as a national sportswear fashion trendsetter is spotlighted as part of a major new exhibition at the **Oregon Historical Center**, Portland. **"One Hundred Years of Oregon Fashion"** demonstrates that what people wear is an accurate reflection of the socal and economic times as well as a personal, creative expression. The exhibit runs through Jan. 13, 1990. *(503) 222-1741.*

Touring Historic Homes

The **"Christmas Candlelight Tour of Historic Homes,"** held in Granbury, Texas, showcases some of the most beautifully decorated and restored homes and public buildings in the state. Opening Dec. 2, this tour is acclaimed as one of the finest in the state and draws thousands of people each year. This year, the tour includes the Hood County Court House, built in 1891, and the recently restored Granbury Train Depot. *(817) 573-5548.*

A Monterey Christmas

Here is a chance for visitors and locals to tour turn-of-the-century adobe buildings during **"Christmas in the Adobes,"** Dec. 14-15. Most of the buildings are decorated with traditional Christmas displays, including luminarias on the pathways. Costumed guides and entertainers add to the atmosphere in adobes such as California's first theater and the Stevenson House where writer Robert Louis Stevenson lived. *(408) 649-7111.*

Antique Lover's Paradise

The **Antique Sampler**, in historic downtown San Antonio, is a gold mine for antique lovers. There are over 100 dealers displaying items from carousel horses to antique automobilia, player pianos, clocks and cut glass. The avid collector will find toys, old advertising signs, tools, jewelry, vintage clothing and even art deco collectibles from the 40's and 50's. A truly unique experience. *(512) 224-4354.*

The Holidays In Long Beach

Long Beach, California, goes all out to get into the Christmas spirit. Two annual holiday parades with a hometown flavor for children and adults are the **6th Annual Belmont Shore Christmas Parade** and the **Seal Beach Christmas Parade.** Call for exact dates and times. In another event, Santa arrives by boat on Nov. 25 at Shoreline Village in downtown Long Beach and children are invited to follow him on a parade to the historic Charles Looff Carousel for free rides. To close the year on a unique note, the Queen Mary and Spruce Goose — what a fun couple! — are having a **New Year's Eve Party.** *(213) 436-3645.*

"Dinosaurs Alive"

Through Nov. 25, the **Fresno Metropolitan Museum** comes alive with huge, prehistoric creatures. The main gallery has been converted to a lush jungle where eight animated creatures, powered by individual computerized air compressors, move their heads, swish their tails and roar with lifelike enthusiasm. Other hands-on educational activities, such as a specially-designed software program, allow visitors to learn more about paleontology, geology, archeology and dinosaur facts and trivia. *(209) 441-1444.*

There's no missing the holiday season in Long Beach, California, with a fairyland of holiday lights and boat parades.

Teddy Bear Tea

Children of all ages are invited to bring their favorite teddy bears to tea at The Ritz-Carlton, Phoenix, Arizona. **Teddy Bear Tea**, Nov. 20 - Dec. 3, offers a delightful afternoon tea experience for children and adults. Special activities include cocoa and cookies for the children, traditional afternoon tea for adults, storytime with The Ritz-Carlton Bear, yuletide carols and wonderful teddy bear displays. Proceeds benefit the Arizona Kidney Foundation. *(602) 468-0700.*

Touring Trails

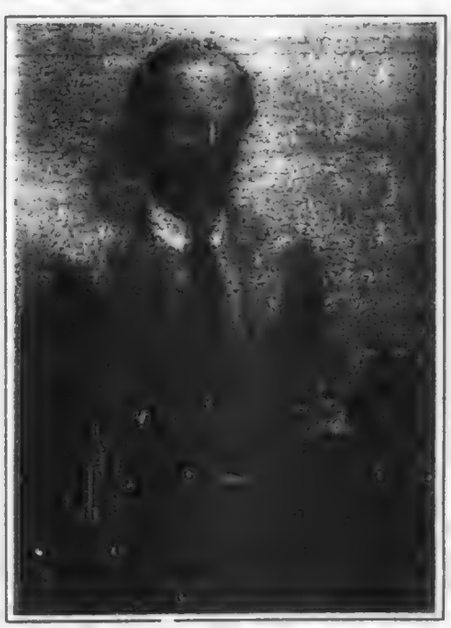
A consortium of Western state humanity councils - Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming - is creating three copies of a traveling exhibit exploring the historical trails that travelers took to the American west. The exhibit, **"Trails through Time,"** explores the relationship between these pathways, the actual topography and different cultures as they all interacted through time. The general theme is that political boundaries often have little to do with the peoples of the area. The exhibits, funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities, will tour communities in the region for 16 months and include lecture-discussion programs. For dates and cities involved, call *(602) 257-0335.*

Nostalgic Rails Tour Canyons

Tour the Copper Canyon of Mexico in restored, privately-owned luxury rail cars and don't worry about drinking the water. The Sierra Madre Express consists of four fully-restored Pullman cars. The seven-day Express leaves Nogales, Arizona, and travels south to the Copper Canyon — the rim is at 8000 feet — through 87 tunnels and over 35 bridges. This canyon is four times larger than the Grand Canyon. The water, by the way, is bottled American. *(602) 747-0346.*

Black Kachina Mystery

A black Spanish slave may have a historical link to the pueblos of the Hopi and Zuni tribes in the Southwest, and a master's degree student in art history is out to find the connection. The kachina, with its black face, arms and torso, is thought by some to represent African slave Esteban, who was on the first recorded expedition to the "New World." John McCarthy, of Governors State University, University Park, Illinois, started his work by looking at ethnographic studies, then by painting, drawing and photographing the kachina collection at the Maxwell Museum of Anthropology.



Graduate student John McCarthy is seeking the significance of the Chakwaina kachintihu doll.

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From fiddlers and festivals to skiing, surfing and singing, holiday time around the West is a busy season! Following is a sampling of the many happenings in our area. As dates and events can change, it's best to check with the State Tourism Office or contact the Chamber of Commerce when planning your vacation.

ALASKA

Alaska Div. of Tourism
Pouch E
Juneau, Alaska 99811
(907)465-2010

Athabascan

Nov.15-18: Old Time Fiddling Festival
This festival is celebrated to preserve the age-old tradition of Athabascan fiddling and dancing. Musicians also come from Canada to participate.

North Pole

Dec. 3: Candle-Lighting Service
Perhaps your first Christmas invitation: The North Pole community invites you to share in the Christmas spirit by attending their annual candle-lighting service.

ARIZONA

Arizona Office of Tourism
1100 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
(602)542-8687

Payson

Nov. 24-25: Annual Swiss Village Christmas Lighting
Specialty acts, lighting ceremonies, hay rides,llovely llamas to pet, and Santa arriving by fire engine.

Tempe

Dec. 1-3: 21st Annual Old Tempe Fall Festival of the Arts
More than 500 artisans, various ethnic and traditional food booths with three stages of continuous entertainment area for kids. Petting zoo, too!

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE INSTITUTE OF ALASKA NATIVE ARTS

Two participants in the Athabascan, Alaska, Old Time Fiddling Festival, Nov. 15-18.

ARKANSAS

Dept. of Parks and Tourism
One Capitol Mall
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201
(501)682-7777

DeQueen

Nov. 4-5: lst Annual Hoorah Days
Turn-of-the-century celebration includes fiddling, turkey calling, muzzleloading and log cutting contests, wagon rides, pie auction and taffy pulls.

Stuttgart

Nov. 21-25: 54th Annual World's Championship Duck Calling Contest & Wings Over the Prairie Festival
Duck Gumbo Cookoff, carnival, 10K duck race, arts, crafts, trap shoots.

CALIFORNIA

California Dept. of Commerce
Office of Tourism
P.O. Box 9278, ext. T-98
Van Nuys, Ca. 91409
(800)862-2543, ext. T-100

Yermo

Nov. 3-5: Fine Arts Festival in Calico Ghost Town
Some of the West's foremost artists gather to display their works. Art auctions, country and bluegrass music.

San Diego

Through Nov. 19 - Maly Drama Theater of Leningrad - San Diego Arts Festival
At the Old Globe Theater, the U. S. premiere of Fyodor Abramov's "Brothers and Sisters."

San Francisco

Begins Nov. 29: Capture The Light
Hands-on exhibit celebrating 150 years of photography. Over 25 interactive activities and experiments. At the Exploratorium.

Monterey

Dec. 6: Weihnachtsmarkt
An authentic European open market with merchants displaying Christmas wares and decorated tables covered with goodies in the gardens. At dusk, St. Nicholas arrives on a white horse to light a giant Christmas tree.

Santa Barbara

Dec. 9: City Christmas Party
Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow — and chances are it won't — so a field of snow will be created in De La Guerra Plaza with

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Tatyana Shestakova and Natalya Akimova in the Maly Drama Theater of Leningrad production of "Brothers and Sisters" at the Old Globe Theatre, San Diego, Nov. 1-19.

entertainment, caroling, music and food galore, lighting of the tree and, of course, Santa himself.

Felton

Dec. 9-10, 16-17: 1880's Christmas At Roaring Camp

Carolers and traditional Yuletide displays. Children aboard the Roaring Camp Railroad look for chocolates hidden in the forest. Steam train rides to Bear Mountain.

San Pedro - Ports O'Call Village

Dec. 9: 26th Annual Christmas Afloat Parade at Los Angeles Harbor

Boat owners go all out and compete for prizes. This is the best viewing spot. Starts at 7 p.m.

COLORADO

Colorado Dept. of Tourism
1625 Broadway, Suite 1700
Denver, Colorado 80202
(800)433-2656

Manitou Springs

Nov. 24-Dec. 17: Victorian Christmas at Miramont Castle

1892 castle is spruced up for the holidays. Music, hot spiced cider and freshly baked goodies. Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays for three weekends from 12-4 p.m.

Colorado Springs

Nov. 28-Dec. 3: 1990 Junior World Figure Skating Championships

Not to be missed if you're in the area, this international event is being held here for the first time. At the Broadmoor World Arena.

Steamboat

Dec. 4-10: Ski Town USA Classic

A week-long celebration during which the fastest women ski racers in the world arrive for early season World Cup racing.

Purgatory

Dec. 15-28: Torchlight Parade

A breathtaking night-time sight as skiers take to the slopes with torches, topped off with fireworks and a visit from Santa in the Village Mall.

HAWAII

Hawaii Visitors Bureau
2270 Kalakaua Avenue, Suite 801
Honolulu, Hawaii 96815
(808)923-1811

Maui

Nov. 3-5: Na Mele O Maui

Festival of Hawaiiana depicting Hawaii's arts, crafts, dances, music. Hotel Ka'anapali in Lahaina, on the island of Maui.

Oahu

Dec. 2-31: Triple Crown of Surfing

The best international and local surfers ride the big ones in this annual series of three top events held on the island's North Shore.

IDAHO

Idaho Travel Council
Hall of Mirrors, 2nd Floor
700 W. State Street
Boise, Idaho 83720
(800)-635-7820

Coeur d'Alene

Nov. 24-26: Christmas Kickoff

A big weekend planned here with a lighting ceremony, a Mr. and Mrs. Santa parade and a two-day arts and crafts fair. Also, you're invited on a boat cruise with the Clauses, complete with refreshments.

Sun Valley

Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Torchlight Parade

The resort's ski school instructors put down their lessons and pick up their torches tonight to carry down the slopes of Dollar Mountain. Carolers in costumes straight out of Dickens sing on the steps of the Sun Valley Inn and Santa arrives by horse-drawn sleigh. Fireworks, too!

IOWA

Bureau of Tourism and Visitors
Iowa Dept. of Economic Development
200 E. Grand Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50309
(800)345-4692

Council Bluffs

Nov. 21-Dec. 31: Christmas at The Dodge House

Re-creation of a Victorian Christmas. Christmas trees with uniquely crafted ornaments and lights. Special holiday decorations throughout the historic General Dodge House.

Des Moines

Dec. 6-Jan. 9: Holiday Wonderland

Thousands of colorful poinsettias, 20,000 lights and mechanical figures set the stage for the holiday season at the Botanical Center.

KANSAS

Kansas Dept. of Commerce
Travel and Tourism Division
400 SW 8th, 5th Floor
Topeka, Kansas 66603-3957
(913)296-2009

Wichita

Nov. 27-Dec. 2: Christmas Through the Windows

Enjoy an 1870's Christmas in Cowtown, a 17-acre "museum" with strolling carolers, musical performances, and blacksmithing demonstrations.

LOUISIANA

Louisiana Office of Tourism
P.O. Box 94291
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9291
(504)342-8119

Colfax

Nov. 3-4: Louisiana Pecan Festival

Pecan house, arts and crafts, parades, pioneer crafts, food booths and "pecanettes," capped by the Queens Ball.

New Orleans

Dec. 1-31: A Creole Christmas in the French Quarter

Concerts, candlelight caroling, tours of historic homes, Christmas Eve bonfires, cruises and the usual holiday food.

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WESTERN CALENDAR

MINNESOTA

Minnesota Office of Tourism
375 Jackson Street, 250 Skyway Level
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
(800)328-1461

Mankato

Nov. 18-19: 1800's Historic Festival
Fur traders, music, storytelling, demonstrations, crafts and historic artifacts.

Duluth

Nov. 17: Christmas City of the North Parade
Santa's first appearance, along with royalty, marching bands and colorful floats.

MISSOURI

Missouri Division of Tourism
Truman State Office Bldg.
P.O. Box 1055
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102
(314)751-3438

Hannibal

Nov. 4-5: Autumn Historic Folklife Festival
Stroll the streets of Hannibal's historic district among artisans dressed in mid-1800's period costume. Street musicians, storytellers and festive food.

Springfield

Dec. 9-23: Christmas Extravaganzoo
Christmas carols and thousands of miniature lights transform Dickerson Park Zoo into a magical, after-dark wonderland.

MONTANA

Travel Montana
Dept. of Commerce
1424 - 9th Avenue
Helena, Montana 59620
(800)541-1447 or in-state (406)444-2645

Helena

Nov. 8: Admission Day - 100th Birthday Centennial Ball
Pancake breakfast, re-enactment of statehood and bellringing ceremonies, arts and musical entertainment downtown.

***Northwest Centennial celebrations are being held also in the states of Washington, Idaho, Wyoming, North and South Dakota.**

NEBRASKA

Division of Travel and Tourism
Dept. of Economic Development
P.O. Box 94666
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-4666
(800)228-4307 or in-state (800)742-7595

Blair

Nov.1-10: DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge Auto Tour & Wildlife Art Sale
Auto tour of the refuge to view the fall migration of thousands of waterfowl. Wildlife art sale at Visitors Center.

Omaha

Dec. 1-3: Dickens In The Market
Victorian weekend featuring costumed entertainers performing traditional holiday music and vignettes of the English author's novels in the streets and shops of the Old Market.

NEVADA

Nevada Commission on Tourism
Capitol Complex
Carson City, Nevada 89710
(800)237-0774

Las Vegas

Nov. 3-5: Las Vegas Indian Days
Traditional dancers, arts and crafts of Native American artisans, including paintings, carvings, pottery, basketry, Kachina dolls and featherwork. Craftsmen on the premises at Henderson Convention Center.

Reno

Dec. 16-23: Festival of Trees
Winter games and caroling around holiday trees set against a backdrop of casinos highlights this holiday celebration.

NEW MEXICO

Economic Development & Tourism Dept.
P.O. Box 20003
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87503
(800)545-2040 or in-state (505)827-0291

Zuni Pueblo

Late Nov./Early Dec. Weekend: Shalako Ceremonial
Night-long Shalako Dances and chants mark the winter solstice in this mysterious, intriguing Indian ceremony. Actual date is a secret until mid-November.

Albuquerque

Dec. 24: Old Town Luminaria Tours
Dating back from Spanish Colonial times, the candle-illuminated, sand-filled paper bags light the way for El Santo Niño (the Christ Child) on Christmas Eve.

NORTH DAKOTA

Tourism Promotion
Liberty Memorial Bldg.
Capitol Grounds
Bismarck, North Dakota 58505
(800)437-2077 or in-state (800)472-2100

Grand Fork

Nov. 2: Centennial Celebration
Happy 100th Birthday highlighted with fireworks, ethnic food and entertainment parties across the state.

Fargo and West Fargo

Nov. 30: Merry Prairie Christmas
Enjoy a wintry day at the old pioneer village of Bonanzaville. Sledding, sleigh riding and caroling. Santa's Village gives donations to needy families for the holidays.

OKLAHOMA

Tourism and Recreation Dept.
500 Will Rogers Bldg.
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105
(800)552-6552

Claremore

Nov. 1-5: Will Rogers Days Celebration
The celebration of the 110th birthday of the famous humorist who "never met a man he didn't like." Memorial service at Rogers' tomb, hot air balloon races, chili cookoff and lots more.

Oklahoma City

Nov. 11-18: World Championship Quarter Horse Show
Over 2,000 Quarter Horses are expected at the show, billed as one of the top 100 events in North America. At the State Fairgrounds.

Guthrie

Nov. 25-Dec. 24: Territorial Christmas Celebration
Citizens in Victorian dress hurry down streets which glow with lights, carolers, street performances and turn-of-the-century cuisine.

OREGON

Economic Development Dept.
Tourism Division
595 Cottage Street, N.E.
Salem, Oregon 97310
(800)547-7842 or in-state (800)543-8838

Eugene

Nov. 3-5: Gem Fair '89
All that glitters and sparkles at the gems, jewelry, mineral and fossil exposition. Lane County Fairgrounds.

Bandon-By-The-Sea

Dec. 1-31: Festival of Lights
Bandon-By-The-Sea's annual celebration finds the entire community outlined in thousands of twinkling lights. Live nativity scene presented weekends in Oldtown.

SOUTH DAKOTA

Tourism Dept.
Capitol Lake Plaza
Pierre, South Dakota 57501
(800)843-1930 or in-state (800)952-2217

Pierre

Nov. 3-4: Centennial Ball/Art Showcase
Gigantic fireworks display, barbecue, Western

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dancing, bands, floats and an elegant ball.

Hill City

Dec. 2: Kris Kringle Day

Craft fair and bake sale. Santa hands out bags of goodies to the kiddies.

TEXAS

State Dept. of Highways
Texas Travel & Information Division
125 E. 11th Street
Austin, Texas 78701
(512)463-8585

"Wurstfesters" come in all sizes and enjoy a variety of food and entertainment at the annual Wurstfest, Nov. 3-12, in New Braunfels, Texas.

Houston

Nov. 12-Dec. 31: Masterworks of Chinese Painting from the Forbidden City

Touring exhibition spanning five centuries and featuring 70 works of Chinese art from the Palace Museum Collection in Beijing. Features landscapes, bird, flower, and figure painting. Museum of Fine Arts.

Plantersville

Through Nov. 12: 15th Annual Texas Renaissance Festival

Enjoy medieval delights of food, arts, crafts and madrigal music as the King's brave knights prepare for battle at the Jousting Encampment.

Goliad

Dec. 2: Mistletoe Marketplace

Santa's arrival in a Longhorn-drawn sleigh is sure to cause some comment. Chalk art contest, caroling sing-a-long, and an array of handmade arts and crafts created by Texas artisans.

Corpus Christi

Dec. 2: Wyndham Chocolate Festival

A sweet start to your holidays. Wander through this hotel, originally one of the Hershey chain, and try chocolate goodies of all kinds from displays made just for the sampling. Just one of the celebrations kicking off the Christmas season.

San Antonio

Dec. 22-23: Christmas Nights at the San Antonio Zoo

Bear Claus invites one and all to the Children's Zoo which will glow with twinkling lights and Christmas cheer.

UTAH

Utah Travel Council
Council Hall/Capitol Hill
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114
(801)538-1030

Salt Lake City

Nov. 24: Temple Square Christmas Lighting

Over 300,000 decorative lights on the Temple grounds are lit through New Year's Day. Carolers stroll the 10-acre square, there's a life-size crèche scene and free concerts every evening at 5:30.

Parowan

Nov. 25: Christmas In The Country

Lighting of the Town Square at dusk followed by a candlelight parade. Arts and crafts sale, bake sales, square dancing and a visit from Santa.

WASHINGTON

Dept. of Trade and Economic Development.
Tourism Division
101 General Administration Bldg.
Olympia, Washington 98504-0613
(206)586-2102

Poulsb

Dec. 2-3: Yule Log Fest

Perhaps the highlight of the day is Santa's arrival by boat, complete with boat parade, Scandinavian goodies to eat and children's events. At Waterfront Park.

Leavenworth

Dec. 2 & 9: 21st Christmas Lighting Festival

Bavarian Village celebrates the holidays with sleighrides, bandstand entertainment, snowman contest, sledding and Scrooge lurking about trying to steal smiles.

WYOMING

Wyoming Travel Commission
I-25 at College Drive
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002-0660
(800)225-5996 or in-state (307)777-7777

Alta

Dec. 24: Christmas Eve at Grand Targhee Ski Resort

Christmas Eve caroling, horse-drawn sleigh rides, egg nog party.

U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE/NATIONAL ELK REFUGE PHOTO

Winter sleigh rides on the National Elk Refuge in Jackson Hole, Wyoming.

Jackson Hole

Late December (depends on snowfall): Opening of National Elk Refuge

Sleigh rides and a good chance that you'll see an elk.

CANADA & THE WESTERN PROVINCES

Edmonton, Alberta

Dec. 7-10: Festival of Trees

An international celebration featuring displays of Christmas trees, gingerbread houses and decorative wreath.

Travel Alberta
10025 Jasper Ave., 15th Floor
Edmonton, Alberta T5J 3Z3
(800)-661-8888

Vancouver, British Columbia

Dec. 18-31: Children's Winterfest

Arts and crafts, good old-fashioned Christmas and carolers, too. Place Stadium.

Tourism British Columbia
2600 Michelson Street, Suite 150
Irvine, California
(714)-852-1054

Whitehorse, Yukon Territory

Nov. 18: Spruce Bog Craft Fair and Sale

Local crafts including pottery, weaving, painting, woodworking and quilting.

Tourism Yukon
Box 2703
Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2C6
(403)667-5340

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REMEMBERING THE PAST

A Wedding Day In Texas

Shackleford County, Texas, December 24, 1888, the wedding day for Troupe Turner and Alice Barker, the young couple on the roof. Alice's dress was a warm wine color, pinned at the throat with a brooch, a gift from her parents.

Troupe looks sober, and with good reason. He had been in love with Alice a long time, but not allowed to court her until he "gave up his wild cowboy ways" and came to Alice's father, who was a preacher, and asked to be baptized. That may have been a big step for him, or did he have an inkling that his little bride would be dead in five years, leaving him with three small children?

Alice's father, Squire Leander Barker, stands in front of the house all dressed up for the occasion in frock coat, vest, tie, white shirt and his best hat, ready to conduct the wedding services.

Half hidden in a side doorway is Alice's mother, Priscilla McGuire Barker, not caring to expose her pregnancy to the photographer. The child she carries, Grace Barker (Wilson), grew up to become a noted author and educator in New Mexico. She was the first person to be inducted into the New Mexico Education Hall of Fame while still living, and the first woman ever so honored. During her lifetime she had more than 1600 poems published in various publications, as well as five volumes of poetry.

The little fellow holding Squire's hand is Elliott, who in later years became a State Game Warden in New Mexico. It was he who conceived the idea of Smokey the Bear when a badly burned cub was rescued from a forest fire. He was also a prolific author, specializing in books about his early adventures.

Elliott and the four girls, Pearl, Minnie, Ida and Mat, are dressed in their best. Note the hair ribbon, the fancy collars for the girls, and Elliott's little boots, hat and dress.

Of the house, Pearl writes in her biography: "Two years later (in 1883) my father built again — the first house I can remember; a fairly large house with a fine fireplace in the living room, and real steps, not just a ladder, leading to an attic bedroom."

The box in the tree is a birdhouse, installed by brothers Charlie and Ben, who are not in the picture. It had come loose from its moorings during the winter, and wasn't fixed till spring.

The Barker family had come to Texas from Virginia in about 1873, and left Texas in 1889, to homestead in New Mexico. All together, Squire and Priscilla had eleven children, all of whom they raised to adulthood, something not many families could say in those days. However, both Alice and Ben died young, she of tuberculosis, he of typhoid.

The photograph was sent to us by Beth R. Kiteley, the granddaughter of Alice, the young bride on the roof.

THE AMERICAN WEST offers twenty-five dollars to any reader whose Remembering The Past is accepted for publication on this page. We seek old photographs that tell stories of bygone times. We'll take good care of your pictures and return them promptly. Be sure to pack the snapshots carefully and enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Send submissions to THE AMERICAN WEST, Remembering The past, 7000 E. Tanque Verde Rd., Suite 30, Tucson, Arizona 85715.

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ART

UNIQUE TROPHIES & PLAQUE AWARDS. Native American Arts, Crafts & Designs. Birdcloud Desigh, Box 1420, Show Low, AZ 85901.

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AUDIO/VIDEO

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MISCELLANEOUS

LONG JOHN STYLE SHIRTS. Tan 3-button 50/50 material with color logo on front and wanted poster on back. Three styles; Wild Bunch, Apache Kid, Bill the Kid. Excellent quality, story tag included. Great Christmas gift, $28 plus $2 postage and handling. Satisfaction guaranteed. SASE

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EXPLORE BIG BEND, TEXAS. Rafting, canoeing, mountain bicycling, hiking, driving. OUTBACK EXPEDITIONS, P.O. BOX 229, TERLINGUA, TEXAS 79852. (915)371-2490.

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WESTERN BOOKSHELF

WAY BACK WHEN: HISTORY

The Birth of Colorado: A Civil War Perspective
by Duane A. Smith
This is the story of Colorado and its people during the Civil War years, 1861-1865. Life in the state was affected by the conflict, but little of what went on was directly connected to the war. Using original sources, ranging from letters, diaries, journals and reminiscences to government reports and newspaper stories, the book captures an important period in the area's mining, political and economic development.
The University of Oklahoma Press, Norman, OK, 1989; illus., biblio., index, 284 pp., $21.95 cloth.

Where The Sun Never Shines: A History of America's Bloody Coal Industry
by Priscilla Long
This history of coal mining in the United States to 1920 begins with the effects of immigration, technology and labor unions on mining in the East. The story continues in the Rocky Mountains with the unrest of the Colorado Fuel & Iron Strike that lead to the bloody Ludlowe Massacre. The "cast of characters" includes "Mother" Mary Jones, Upton Sinclair and John D. Rockefeller.
Paragon House, New York, NY, 1989; illus., biblio., notes, 400 pp., $24.95 cloth.

Throw Down the Box! Treasure Tales from Gilmer & Salisbury, The Western Stagecoach King
by George A. Thompson
Gilmer & Salisbury was a giant of Western stagecoaching, a company whose stages rolled along more than 6,000 miles of road, in every western state. Successors to the Holloday Overland Mail and Wells Fargo, the company had thousands of employees and owned more livestock, horses and mules than it could count. Its main lines, along with dozens of smaller branch lines, served nearly every mining camp and ranch town in the frontier West. And talk about carrying treasure!
Dream Garden Press, Salt Lake City, UT., 1989; illus., appen., 152 pp., $16.00 paper.

A Little History of North American Indians
by Oscar H. Lipps
Originally published in 1909, this work offers a much different view of the Navajo Indian tribe than the one people have in the late 1980's. In the eighty years that have passed, the Navajos have undergone major changes in their social structure, lifestyles and population. This is a white man's view based on his personal experiences as an Indian Agent.
University of New Mexico Press, Albuquerque, NM, 1989; b/w photos, append., 138 pp., $19.95 cloth.

The Post Near Cheyenne: A History of Fort D.A. Russell, 1867-1930
by Col. Gerald M. Adams, USAF (RET.)
Although not expected to survive the completion of the Union Pacific Railroad and the pacification of the frontier, Fort Russell (now Francis E. Warren Air Force Base) has been continuously occupied since 1867. Orginally organized as a 12-company garrison to provide protection for the railroad, the post developed a mutually rewarding relationship with the community of Cheyenne over the years.
Pruett Publishing Co., Boulder, CO., 1989; biblio., index, 272 pp., $21.95 cloth.

Monterey In 1786: The Journals of Jean François de la Pérouse
Commentary by Malcolm Margolin
Jean François de la Pérouse was the commander of a scientific and diplomatic expedition financed by King Louis XVI of France in the fall of 1785. The party consisted of eminent scientists, navigators, cartographers, illustrators and physicians. They came in the first foreign vessels to visit Spain's California colonies and spent 10 days recording the customs and beliefs of the missionaries and the local Indians.
Heyday Books, Berkeley, CA, 1989; illus., 128 pp., $8.95 paper.

The Career of Elmer McCurdy, Deceased: An Historical Mystery
by Richard J. Basgall
This one may be a little grim on the surface and a little far fetched, but the publishers claim it to be true. It seems that on Oct. 7, 1911, not-so-famous outlaw Elmer McCurdy was shot and killed by a sheriff's posse. After spending 65 years as "a real dead outlaw" in sideshow and carnival attractions, old Elmer was finally buried in 1977. Imagine the surprise at the Long Beach amusement park when they discovered the guy hanging from a rope in the funhouse was not just any old wax dummy.
Trail's End Publishing Co., Dodge City, KS, 1989; illus., 253 pp., $10.95 paper, $16.95 cloth.

Buffalo Bill and His Wild West: A Pictorial Biography
by Joseph G. Rosa and Robin May
Containing many never-before-published photographs, this book says it will "tease" apart truth and illusion from the well hyped life of William Cody, aka Buffalo Bill. A frontiersman with a talent for show business, Cody toured America and Europe for more than 25 years, perpetuating the myth of the Wild West.
University Press of Kansas, Lawrence, KS, 1989; b/w photos, biblio., 256 pp., $14.95 paper, $27.50 cloth.

East of Eden, West of Zion: Essays on Nevada
Edited by Wilbur S. Shepperson
Twelve historians and novelists present their impressions and concerns about "end-of-the-century" Nevada in this collection of essays. Along with historical and geographical perspectives of the state, they present a contemporary view in order to evoke a meaningful image and consistent theme. This is your basic, where-we've-come-from, where-we're-going and who-we-are kind of book, dealing with cultural and ecconomic ideas.
University of Nevada Press, Reno, NV., 1989; 208 pp., $15.95 paper, $22.95 cloth.

Archaeological Perspectives on the Battle of the Little Bighorn
by Douglas D. Scott, Richard A. Fox, Jr., Melissa A. Connor and Dick Harmon
Where were you on June 25, 1876? If you were with General George Armstrong Custer, your day — and the rest of your life — was pretty much over and done with. But at least you would have known what these archaeological researchers discovered in 1984 and 1985 when, after a brush fire cleared the area of brush and grass, they conducted a thorough examination of the battlefield. The results show exactly what weapons were used against the men, where they fought, how they were deployed, what kind of equipment they had, what they were wearing and where they died.
University of Oklahoma Press, Norman, OK, 1989; illus., tables, refs., index, 326 pp., $24.95 cloth.

Turn Your Eyes Toward Texas: Pioneers Sam and Mary Maverick
by Paula Mitchell Marks
Mary Maverick was, by some accounts, the first Anglo-American woman to settle in San Antonio. While her husband Sam was out participating in many of the most momentous events of the state's early history, Mary chronicled the stresses and tragedies of pioneer life in great detail. Together they founded a Texas family dynasty and contributed immeasurably to the cultural development of San Antonio. The author has used a wealth of family letters, journals, diaries and business materials to vividly portray this story.
Texas A&M University Press, College Station, TX, 1989; notes, biblio., index, 323 pp., $27.50 cloth.

Women in Pacific Northwest History: An Anthology
Edited by Karen J. Blair
This collection is called the first attempt to document and interpret a broad range of experiences of women in Northwest history — Washington's and Oregon's in particular. The book's twelve essays are divided into five sections: "Suffrage," "Work," "Race and

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Ethnicity," "The Arts" and "New Directions for Research."
University of Washington Press, Seattle, WA., 1989; illus., index, 272 pp., $14.95 paper, $30.00 cloth.

IT WAS A TIME, A TIME WHEN... REMINISCENCES

"A Secret to Be Buried": The Diary and Life of Emily Hawley Gillespie, 1858-1888
by Judy Nolte Lensink
A condensed version of the 2,500-page journals of "ordinary" woman Emily Hawley Gillespie, this is a detailed account of rural Iowa life 100 years ago. A wealth of information was faithfully recorded, including the rewards and challenges of family life, how the farm was run and the reflections of a woman who dreamed of being a painter and writer but instead became a wife and mother.
University of Iowa Press, Iowa City, IA., 1989; biblio., index, 145 pp., $12.50 paper, $35.00 cloth.

Far from Home: Families of the Westward Journey
by Lillian Schlissel, Byrd Gibbens & Elizabeth Hampsten
Using letters and diaries, the authors piece together the sagas of three families who ventured West during the mid-nineteenth to the early twentieth century. Settling American frontiers had a profound effect on families as well as on their ties back East. The authors maintain the western ideals of mobility and individualism are still to this day stronger forces than the notion of keeping families together.
Schocken Books, New York, 1989; b/w photos, notes, 264 pp., $19.95 cloth.

Dreams to Dust: A Diary of the California Gold Rush, 1849 - 1850
by Charles Ross Parke, M.D., edited by James E. Davis
Leaving from Whiteside County, Illinois with a small company of adventurers, Dr. Parke recorded his travels across the continent to the California gold fields. With a doctor's eye for detail, he recorded his observations about everything along the way, from Indian cultures and the women he encountered to the life and politics in the mining camps and towns where he lived and worked.
The University of Nebraska Press, Lincoln, NE, 1989; illus., biblio., notes, 271 pp., $33.95 cloth.

The Harvey Girls: Women Who Opened the West
by Lesley Poling-Kempes
The Harvey Girls were young women who, from the 1880's to the 1950's, went West to work as waitresses in Fred Harvey's hotel/restaurants along the Santa Fe railroad. Besides being among the only women found in those struggling railroad and mining towns, they were also first-hand observers of the development of the American West. Seventy five of these women give realistic accounts of single women working in a turn-of-the-century man's world.
Paragon House, New York, NY, 1989; b/w photos, 336 pp., $19.95 cloth.

Views From the Apache Frontier: Report on the Northern Provinces of New Spain
by José Cortés, edited by Elizabeth A. H. John, translated by John Wheat
A report penned in 1799 by a lieutenant in the Spanish Royal Corps of Engineers —José Cortés — was discovered in 1979 and has proven to be a rare glimpse of life on the Apache frontier. Cortés was a keen observer of the native people in the northern borderlands of "New Spain," especially the Apaches. He combined his experiences with information gleaned from available archives, summarizing more than a quarter century of data by observers in the "new world."
The University of Oklahoma Press, Norman, OK, 1989; illus., notes, biblio., index, 192 pp., $21.95 cloth.

GO WEST

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Compiled by Kathleen G. Hjerter
Introduction by William Weber Johnson
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WESTERN BOOKSHELF

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Minnesota Historical Society Press, St. Paul, MN, 1989; illus., 265 pp., $8.95 paper.

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What would drive a Harvard-educated actor-writer and his wife to leave the comforts of early 1950's Hollywood and jump headlong into remodeling a run-down colonial mansion in the small mining town of Alamos, Sonora, in northern Mexico? In short time, **La Casa de los Tesoros** became internationally known as an elegant little resort hotel, frequented by the rich and famous of the day. This is the story of their struggles and successes.
Arcus Publishing, Sonoma, CA. 1989; illus., 240 pp., $16.95 cloth.

OF BRUSH, LOOM & LENS: ART AND PHOTO BOOKS

Secrets from the Center of the World
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An unlikely collaboration of a Creek Indian poet and a New England astronomer-photographer has produced a wonderfully thoughtful tour through the beautifully stark — but incredibly colorful — lands of northern Arizona and New Mexico. The landscapes are powerful and the words help to bring that power alive.
University of Arizona Press, Tucson, AZ., 1989,; color photos, 67 pp., $12.95 paper.

Passing Through: Western Meditations of Douglas Kent Hall
by Douglas Kent Hall
This collection of photographs by the author reveals an assortment of subjects from one side of his camera. We've got cowboys, Indians, Mexicans and jail prisoners, as well as profiles of people driving their vehicles across the desert, all done with respect for their humanity. The essays that accompany each section explore his reflections from years on the other side of the lens.
Northland Publishing, Flagstaff, AZ. 1989; 85 duotones, 114 pp., $35.00 cloth.

Maria: Revised and Expanded Edition
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Maria Martinez has been called the most famous Indian artist of all time. The photographs of her and her family's Southwestern pottery display a 70-year mix of tradition and design innovation. The family not only dug the potting clay but made and fired the pieces and painted the often intricate designs. During her lifetime — she died in 1980 — Maria attracted much national and international attention and acclaim for her work.
Northland Publishing, Flagstaff, AZ, 1989; b/w & color photos, 176 pp., $21.95 paper, $45.00 cloth.

Art of the Red Earth People: The Mesquakie of Iowa
by Gaylord Torrence and Robert Hobbs
As with many native peoples, the Mesquakie Indians expressed the essence of their lives, myths and dreams in the everyday items they used. This book presents an overview of their artistic traditions to the present day. The major types of art they created, together with their distinguishing characteristics, evolution and cultural function, as well as the concepts and symbolic meanings expressed through these works of art, are discussed.
University of Wasington Press, Seattle, WA, 1989; b/w & color photos, 144 pp., $24.95 paper, $50.00 cloth.

Shaman: The Paintings of Susan Seddon Boulet
This is a collection of Susan Seddon Boulet's interpretive paintings of shamans and shamanic dreams. Boulet's subtle color palette relates the otherworldliness of the shamanic reality, reflecting the spiritual powers of shamans and the strong connection with nature. Excerpts from Native American ceremonies, chants and songs are interspersed throughout the book.
Pomegranate Calendars & Books, Petaluma, CA, 1989; color illus., 128 pp., $19.95 paper.

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Falcon Press, Billings, MT, 1989; illus., 128 pp., $14.95 paper.

Historical Atlas of the American West
by Warren A. Beck & Ynez D. Haase
The authors present a comprehensive geographical look at the unique characteristics of the American West. The region's physical characteristics are reviewed, along with special maps that stress the impact of such natural disasters as floods, earthquakes and the eruption of Mount St. Helens. Many other maps are included, showing unique views of Western Indians, major explorations, overland movements and the development of transportation routes.
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Johnson Books, Boulder, CO., 1989; b/w illus., notes, 106 pp., $7.95 paper.

Muir Among the Animals: The Wildlife Writings of John Muir
Edited by Lisa Mighetto
This collection of essays written by the founder of the Sierra Club can be taken as a plea from the grave for animal rights and the preservation of wildlife. Muir spent a lifetime observing nature and came to believe in the importance of all creatures in the well-being of humanity and the planet.
Sierra Club Books, San Francisco, CA., 1989; b/w illus., 256 pp., $9.95 paper.

Roadside Geology of Idaho
by David D. Alt & Donald W. Hyndman
The latest in a series of Roadside geology books, the Idaho book divides the state into four regions, each a major geologic province. The authors carefully describe the rocks, then go on to explain their meaning and relate them to the geologic events they record. Fun for some.
Mountain Press Publishing Company, Missoula, MT., 1989; illus., glossary, index, 403 pp., $14.95 paper.

Mosses, Lichens & Ferns of Northwest North America
by Dale H. Vitt, Janet E. Marsh and Robin B. Bovey
Finally, a field guide to mosses, liverworts, lichens and ferns. For people interested in such things, more than 370 species are discussed in the text and each is illustrated in color. Included

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are descriptions of the major vegetation zones in northwestern North America and distribution maps that show where individual species have been found. These relatively inconspicuous plants play biologically and potentially economically significant roles.
University of Washington Press, Seattle, WA, 1989; color photos, illus., 288 pp., $17.50 paper.

PEOPLE & PLACES

The Island Within
by Richard Nelson
Anthropologist Nelson's intimate account of his explorations of one wild, uninhabited island near his Pacific Northwest home details not only his love and respect for the natural world but also his internal struggle to assimilate into his own life the teachings of the Alaskan native peoples he has worked with for more than 20 years.
North Point Press, Berkeley, CA, 1989; 352 pp., $18.95 cloth.

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University Press of Kansas, Lawrence, KS, 1989; illus., 232 pp., $9.95 paper, $25.00 cloth.

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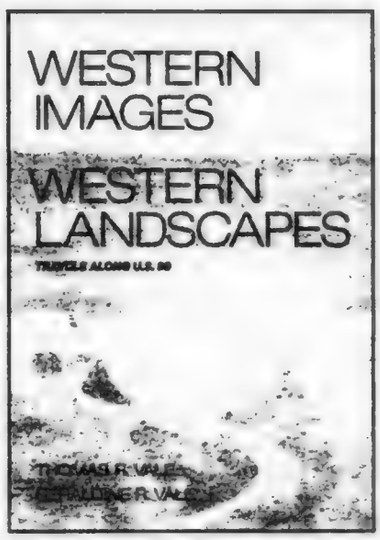

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Wilderness Press, Berkeley, CA., 1989; illus., maps, 120 pp., $9.95 paper.

Changes in Latitude: An Uncommon Anthropology
by Joana McIntyre Varawa
The story is "supposed" to go like this: A man in his fifties packs it in and moves to some tropical paradise where he falls in love with some pretty young thing and lives happily ever after. In real life — in the author's real life, anyway — the person deserting the comfort, energy and familiarity of American culture is a 54-year-old woman and the young thing she married is a 22-year-old fisherman on the lush island of Vedrala in Fiji. The book documents the melding of two cultures, complete with the expected fireworks, passions, squabbles and the exotica and domesticity of her new world.
Atlantic Monthly Press, New York, NY., 1989; photos, glossary, index, 274 pp., $19.95 cloth.

THE CULTURAL MARCH

The Preservation of the Village: New Mexico's Hispanics and the New Deal
by Suzanne Forrest
The residents of New Mexico's Hispanic villages are, like the American Indians, one of the few ethnic groups to be incorporated into the United States as the result of conquest rather than voluntary emigration. This study of their experiences during the Great Depression shows how national and regional forces have influenced the traditional, land-based Hispanic culture.
The University of New Mexico Press, Albuquerque, NM, 1989; b/w photos, biblio., index, $17.50 paper, $35.00 cloth.

A Study of Pueblo Architecture in Tusayan and Cibola
by Victor Mindeleff. Introduction by Peter Nabokov
This study was originally published in 1891 and has become a classic treasure for scholars of Southwestern Indians, architectural historians and cultural geographers. The author and his brother were young architects when they were sent by Major John Wesley Powell on field trips to Arizona from New Mexico during the golden age of Southwestern anthropology. They measured, sketched and photographed the prehistoric areas from 1881 to 1888. The introduction places the work in historical perspective.
Smithsonian Institution Press, Washington, DC., 1989; b/w photos, illus., 653 pp., $19.95 paper.

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WESTERN WEARABLES

COWGIRL SWEETHEART: Junior cowgirls will love celebrating the holidays in this bright red Panhandle Slim blouse that features pearl snaps and a lace-edged, heart-shaped bib with a heart applique. The blouse is 65 percent polyester, 35 percent cotton, for easy washing, and is available in red, medium blue or grape. A perfect partner to the Reno jeans in 100 percent cotton denim. Both in sizes 4 to 6X and 7 to 14.

PRINCESS PRINTS: This delightful denim print jumper set by Panhandle Slim for girls would make a perfect outfit for a Western Christmas. The jumper is 100 percent cotton, washable, with a piped and ruffled front yoke. The matching printed pullover top is a 50/50 cotton-polyester knit with long sleeves and snap closing. Both pieces come girls' sizes 4 to 6X and 7 to 14.

more

WESTERN

HORSIN' AROUND: To brighten dull winter days, slip on this colorful crew-neck sweater with a Southwestern horse design, also from Panhandle Slim. The long-sleeve knit, made of washable acrylic, comes in either fuchsia with black motif or navy with wine horses. In sizes small, medium and large.

WEARABLES

FRINGE BENEFITS: If you're looking for sophisticated Western dressing for the holidays, try on these suede separates from Panhandle Slim for ladies that use fringe and conchos to create a dramatic effect. The sleek style on the right features a snap-front skirt and top with fringe and conchos decorating the shoulders. The pullover style, left, has a slim, side-split skirt, accented with fringe and a single concho, and a top with more fringe and conchos on the overlay front yoke. Made of 100 percent suede, these separates are available in red, grey or black, sizes, small, medium, large and extra-large. Matching suede boots provide a dashing final touch.

The outfits on these pages are available at most fine Western shops or from Panhandle Slim, P.O. Box 162749, 4901 N. Freeway, Fort Worth, TX 76161; telephone 1-817-625-2841. ❖

SOLAR OASIS

Life in a Desert House

by Chris Sauder
Photography By Allen Maertz

The best thing about Beth and Carl Hodges' Tucson, Arizona, home is that it's so "them." The neatest thing about them is that they're...well, hard to define in one word. You've just got to meet them.

"Sorry I don't have my shoes on," Beth Hodges says, holding out a foot for inspection. "I just did my toe nails."

She turns as the rustic wooden doors open and smiles a greeting as her husband enters.

"You've got two hats on your head," she says with gentle amusement. "Did you know that, Carl?"

"Yes," Carl Hodges answers with a slight smile that seems to say, "So?". He takes them off and hangs them on the "Hodges Hatrack," the dried stem from the top of a century plant.

To say the Hodges are an interesting couple is oversimplification. But interesting they are and many other things as well.

They appear to live simply yet intensely amidst a complex, sophisticated mosaic of ideas, technologies, appointments, and an international network of friends, acquaintances and colleagues.

A glimpse at their datebooks provides insight into the fascinating lifestyle they lead so casually: a tour of Biosphere II with Princess Margaret of the Netherlands, dinner with members of the royal family of Saudi Arabia, lunch with a Disney World executive, a celebration with the Martin Sheen family as his star joins the sidewalk parade in Hollywood, and a visit in the Soviet Union with the second-in-command to Gorbachev.

They're busy people. "We have two speeds," says Carl, "Hectic and more hectic."

Who *are* these people?

Opposite page: Once lawn, this natural desert landscaping lies along a man-made wash. The vegetation is moistened regularly with water from the street and the rain barrel and soon by recycled house water.

Opposite inset: Carl and Beth Hodges, owners of this unique remodeled home, stand in front of the cooling tower at the University of Arizona's Environmental Research Lab. The cooling tower is the prototype for a smaller version at their home.

Above: The zaguán is the entry room of the Hodges home, a nice place to chat in front of the fire. Not traditionally roofed, this area can get very wet when it storms. The doors are raised an inch or so above the floor to allow the rain to flow out.

SOLAR OASIS

Carl Hodges, a soft-spoken man with intelligent brown eyes and lazy fluffs of auburn hair topping his six-foot frame, has been the director of the University of Arizona's Environmental Research Lab (ERL) since 1967. The ERL is an off-campus, non-teaching research facility that sprawls across several acres of Tucson International Airport ground.

Under Carl's direction, present projects in motion at ERL are the development of food and habitation systems in controlled and/or unique environments, new technologies in seawater animal and plant production, and solar energy applications for space heating and cooling.

Beth Hodges — a warm, vivacious woman with a generous, wide-lipped smile, casually finger-combed dark hair and curiously intense, almost black eyes — is administratively responsible for a separate facility with a symbiotic relationship to ERL: the Planetary Design Corporation (PDC).

PDC is a for-profit technology transfer company, primarily involved in marketing throughout the world the technologies originated at ERL. One of its many projects is the current development of the Intensive Biome of Biosphere II, an enclosed, self-sustaining, manmade environment located on two and one-half acres in Oracle, Arizona.

Their jobs are hardly jobs at all. Both are involved daily in what is more a consuming passion for each: the discovery and expansion of technologies that will save the world from exhausting its resources; and the futuristic need to establish new plants, new energy sources, even new worlds on other planets.

Their relationship, a second marriage for both, evolved when they first worked together at ERL some 10 years ago. Both considered romance and work (at that time) to be incompatible, so for a while their careers diverged, only to converge again when Beth became involved in PDC.

To understand how the Hodges live, eat and breathe, and to discover the ideologies that make them who they are, you have only to look at their home.

First, the location of this uniquely remodeled home built in the late '40s is hardly accidental. Time is of the essence to the Hodges, who find the 24-hour day somewhat limiting.

"We literally drew a compass circle

Opposite page: Beams alone cover this section of the zaguán, and when it rains, it really pours in here.

Above: The Hoages spend most of their at-home time in their multi-purpose "bedroom." The glass globe in the foreground houses a miniature ecosystem, a self-contained life-support system that is a replica of one of the Hodges' projects — Biosphere II.

around the areas that were closer to work," says Beth, laughing as she remembers their efforts to save themselves those precious six or seven hours a week of driving time. "We just drove up and down the streets until we found a house that would provide exposures and that was for sale."

"And that we could afford," Carl is quick to add.

Although immersed in the sciences, the Hodges have a remarkably well-rounded approach to life and — contrary to the stereotypical picture of the scientist happily cloistered in his lab — many of their decisions about their lifestyle and particularly about the design of their home have been emotion-based.

"I think people build architectural statements for other people and this house was built mainly for us," Carl says. "During the designing stage, we listed everything we wanted and it turned out that probably 75 percent of the things we wanted were emotional things, not physical things. It wasn't that we wanted a walkway or a door. We wanted to feel this way, have this experience, we wanted visitors to feel a certain way.

"My favorite image of a house is that, after people visit, they don't remember what it looked like, just how it felt."

It feels marvelously comfortable and "homey." Because it lacks today's standard extravagance and excess (although it is abundant in the lushness only nature can provide), and because it so uniquely mirrors the Hodges' passion for planetary issues — it is a home in which to relax and learn.

Take the zaguán, for instance. (Pronounce it "zo-wän'.") An interesting room, to say the least. You've just passed through a rustic double-doored entrance, but you're still not exactly inside. You're in, but you're also out, never more damply obvious than on a rainy day — you can and will get wet.

There is no roof, only beams, and the walls rise high to meet them, but when it rains, it does indeed pour in the zaguán. The floor is unsealed tile, and the doors on either side are raised to allow the inevitable puddles to escape.

"It's simple," Beth says. "When it rains, the floor gets wet. Sometimes it's really inconvenient, but most times you just scoot across and get something, come back in, shake your hair off and giggle. I have found that it's not an inconvenience. I think it's fun, kind of a kick."

SOLAR OASIS

Above: This guest room houses the cooling tower, a new-tech version of an Arab wind tower, which lowers temperatures inside by as much as 25 degrees and costs only a few dollars a month to operate.

"We wanted a transitional area that was indoor-outdoor," Carl adds, "instead of having to go through the house to get to the back porch."

In addition to the simple beauty of the room, its unique furnishings, the hanging pots of fragrant herbs and a water fountain slopping in and out of three petroglyph-decorated bowls, there are two things that immediatly grab your attention.

The first is the framed quotation from Mahatma Gandhi above the brick fireplace, which more than any other statement describes the nature and philosophy of the Hodges' home:

"I do not want my house to be walled in on all sides and my windows to be stuffed. I want the culture of all lands to be blown about my house as freely as possible."

There are indeed many openings to

The back door, a striking design of metal tubing by Alfredo Rivera, leads to the patio and yard. The margarita deck, above on the roof, is a friendly place to view sunsets and the entirety of the Hodges' home.

the outside that remain exposed in even the most inclement of weather. There are no window coverings except on the front windows, giving the house a feeling of openness and closeness to nature. And the walls and other spaces are filled with fond memories of the Hodges' travels: papyrus from Egypt, a huge batiked canvas from Sri Lanka and various Indian artifacts.

The second singular feature has to do with the temperature of the room. The air is cool and fresh and actually has a definable presence. It definitely is not air conditioning.

Off to the side of the zaguán is what the Hodges call their guesthouse, a suite of rooms used by their many visitors at least once a week. Once a kitchen and garage, it has been charmingly remodeled in keeping with the rest of the house.

The most unique feature of the Hodges' home, its cool tower, is housed in the guest area. This 26-foot structure is an amazingly simple design for the great energy savings and comfort it generates. Its active effect is neatly illustrated by the swift, multi-colored rotations of one of the Hodges' "most technical and expensive" scientific instruments: a child's pinwheel!

(Designed at ERL, the cool tower is the spawn of the traditional Arab wind

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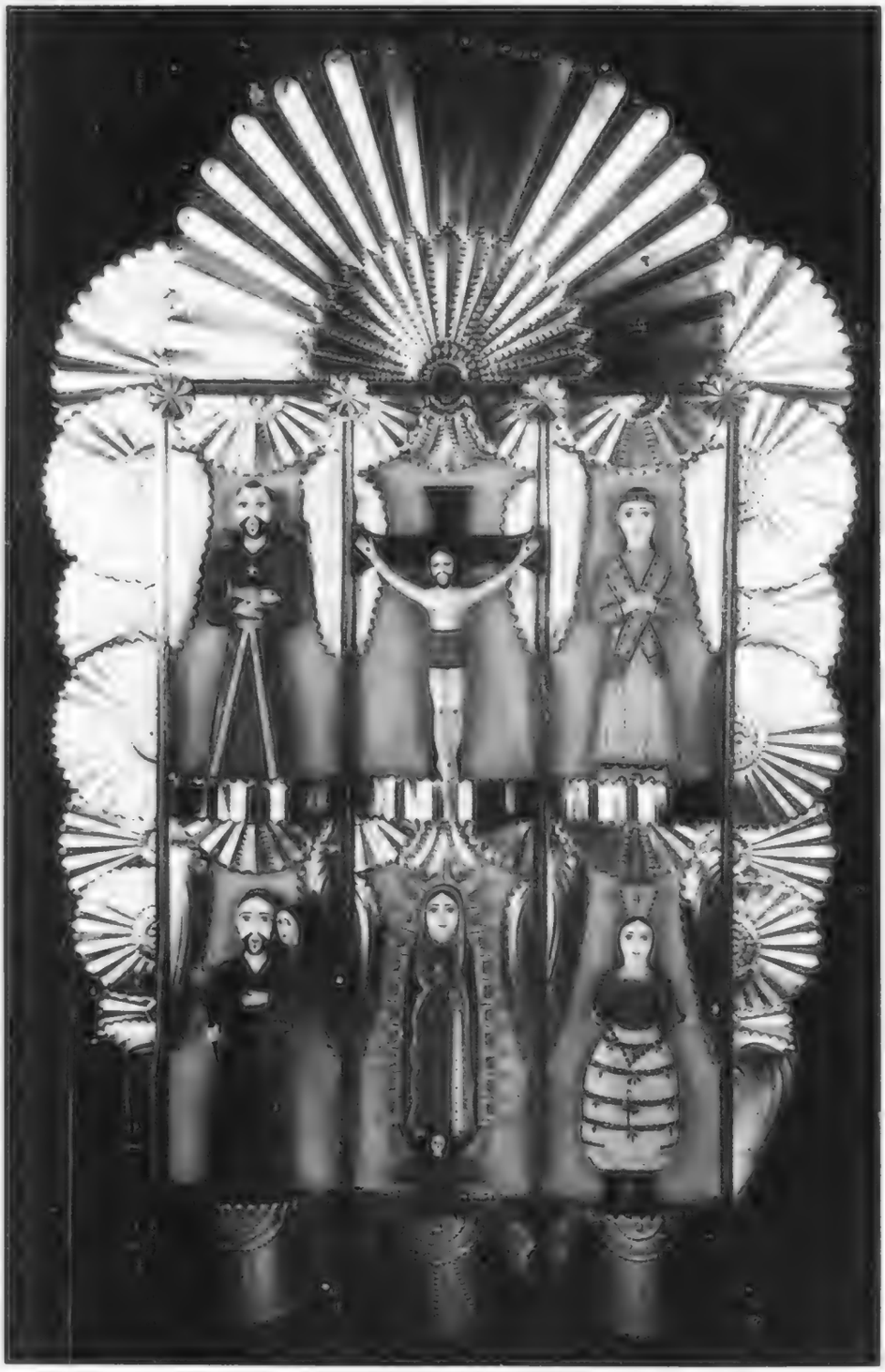
PHOTOS: BLAIR CLARK



Above: An altar screen by Anita Romero Jones (b. 1930), acrylic on pine with tin accents; 1987. Part of the collection of the International Folk Art Foundation.
Opposite page: A late 19th century bulto, Nuestra Senora de los Dolores (Our Lady of Sorrows), by Miguel Herrera; paint, gesso and wood. Part of the C.D. Carroll Collection, Museum of International Folk Art, Santa Fe.

Hispanic Folk Art

by Susan Kaye

Antonio Archuleta, a master artisan from Taos, New Mexico, spent two months duplicating the original 1816 main doors of the Santuario de Chimayo. The commission for the massive doors, as well as for replicas of the baptistry doors from the nearby Trampas church, came from the new Hispanic Heritage Wing of the Museum of International Folk Art (MOIFA) in Santa Fe.

Since the opening of the wing in July of this year, Archuleta has received many requests to carve doors similar to those that have been installed in the museum. "But I tell them," he says, "that if I ever tackle another set, they will be for my own mansion. They were the most challenging project of my career. And you know, I'm a little, 140-pound man. How did I get stuck making such big pieces?"

The work of Archuleta, along with that of dozens of other established New Mexican Hispanic artists, forms a part of America's largest and most complete collection of Hispanic folk art from the Spanish colonial period to the present. Now on display in its own wing at the MOIFA, the exhibits include both a permanent exhibit, "Familia y Fe," (Family and Faith) and changing contemporary exhibits.

"This museum is different from others because it is based on Hispanics living here today," explains Dr. Helen Lucero, project co-director. "Hispanics continue to carry out some of the traditions and art forms originally introduced by 16th-century Spanish colonists."

"Familia y Fe" illustrates the dominance of both faith and family in Hispanic society. The altar screen in the musuem's replica village chapel, painted by the master Rafael Aragon, originally stood in the morada of Vadito, south of Taos. "As a child, I saw it there," recalls Dr. Lucero. "But the chapel was on Indian lands, and

eventually the community sold the screen to the museum." The hand-carved corbels supporting the chapel's beamed ceiling were acquired from another Hispanic community. A recreated Hispanic home of the 1860s is the focus of the familia section.

Some artists, such as 34-year-old weaver Irvin Trujillo of Chimayo, are represented both in the permanent exhibit and in the current contemporary gallery exhibit, "Tradición de Orgullo" (Tradition of Pride) where living artists, many of whom have received national and international acclaim, are exhibited. Trujillo cards, spins, scours, dyes, designs, weaves, finishes and markets his weavings. "The tradition is dynamic," Trujillo says, explaining that his father's side of the family has been weaving in the Rio Grande valley since the early 1700's. "I've learned from my forefathers and expanded on it. Artisans must be able to express themselves through their work, and not be inhibited by the past."

Not all art forms derive from such a continuous heritage. Santa Fe artist Eliseo Rodriguez is credited with reviving the lost art of straw applique in which mi-

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Art Notes

"Historic Ranches of Wyoming," a photographic exhibit that reveals something of the heritage and everyday life of the American West through the physical culture of a ranch — its buildings, tools, machinery and environment — runs from Nov. 1-31 at the Museum of the Great Plains in Lawton, OK. 601 Ferris, 405-353-5675.

The Fresno Metropolitan Museum of Art, History and Science's "5th Annual El Dia de los Muertos," celebrating the traditional Mexican folk holiday, the Day of the Dead, runs throughout the month of November. This year's display features an elaborate installation of five communal altars by prominent California Hispanic artists which combines indigenous beliefs and Aztec imagery with European Catholic traditions. It will be followed by "8th Annual Christmas at the Met," a magnificent array of colorfully adorned Christmas trees created by local artists, designers and florists (through December). 1515 Van Ness Ave, 209-441-1444.

Three exhibits are currently on view at The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston: "Czech Modernism: 1900-1945" (through Jan. 7, 1990) presents the evolution of Czechoslovakian art from Expressionism through Surrealism during the first

Left: Three historical treasures to be sold simultaneously at Butterfield's Nov. 20th Fine Swords sale: A Tiffany sword, 1864; a jewel-encrusted sword presented to General Ulysses S. Grant when he took command of the Northern Army; and a sword bestowed upon Colonel Henry B. Humphry.

Opposite page: A Western stage coach ("Mudwagon") that will be sold at the Nov. 19th auction of selected items from the private collection of Western film star Gene Autry. Proceeds of the auction will benefit the Gene Autry Western Heritage Museum.

half of this century. "Mario Fortuny" (through Dec. 31) offers an exhibition of the fabrics and dresses of designer Mario Fortuny y Madrazo (1871-1949), best known for his pleated silk, Greek-inspired evening gowns. "The Intimate Interiors of Edouard Vuillard" (through Jan. 28, 1990) includes some 60 paintings of interiors by the post-Impressionist painter, most dating from the 1890's. 1001 Bissonnet, 713-526-1361.

Two little-known murals by cowboy artist Charles M. Russell, one 20 feet long and the other 24 feet long, will be exhibited for the first time in Texas at the Cowboy Artists of America Museum, Kerrville, from Nov 11 to Jan. 7, 1990. The murals, on loan from the The Hubbard Museum in Ruidoso, NM, were painted by Russell in 1926, the year of his death, for a West Coast oil producer, Edward Doheny. After Doheny's death, his widow donated the huge paintings to a small Catholic seminary where they remained in obscurity until recently. Also on loan from the Hubbard are a Russell oil, "The Snow Trail;" and a bronze sculpture, "Meat for Wild Men; as well as a Frederic Remington oil, "The Navajo Raid;"and a W.R. Leigh oil, "Happy Hunting Ground." Highway 173. 512-896-2553.

Butterfield & Butterfield, Auctioneers & Appraisers, will be the site of three interesting auctions Nov. 19-21. A selection of items from the personal collection of Gene Autry will be sold Nov 19 to benefit the film star's Western Heritage museum in Los Angeles. Included are movie memorabilia, antique automobiles and a superb collection of American artifacts. A group of over 200 American swords spanning every major conflict from the American Revolution to the Civil War goes under the gavel simultaneously in San Francisco and Los Angeles on Nov. 20. And on Nov. 21, a roundup of 500 saddles, spurs and bits from the collection of the late H.C. Lewis will hit the auction block. 220 San Bruno Ave., San Francisco, 415-861-7500; 7601 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, 213-850-7500.

The Heard Museum's 4th Biennial Native American Fine Arts Invitational, an acknowledgement of the importance of Native American fine art in the contemporary art world, features works by contemporary Indian artists of both the United States and Canada. The exhibition will run through the spring of 1990. 22 E. Monte Vista, Phoenix, 602-252-8840.

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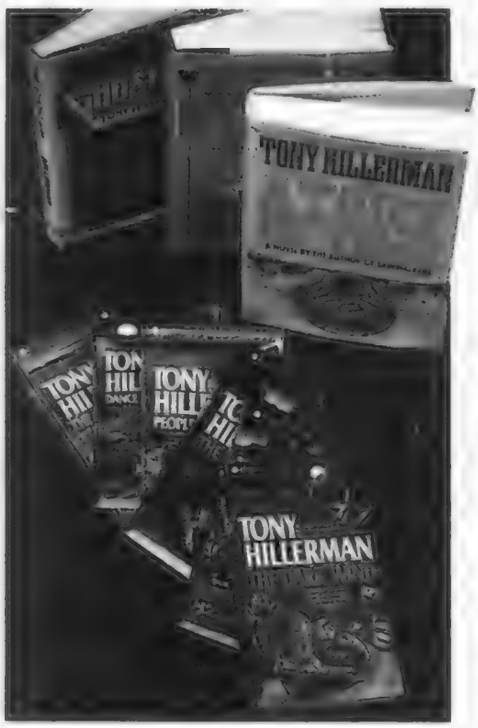
The Mysteries of Tony Hillerman

PHOTOS: JUDITH TABOR GAUGENMAIER

RIGHT: Author Tony Hillerman relaxes.

BELOW: A selection of Hillerman's mysteries.



by Judith Tabor Gaugenmaier

Under the heat of a blazing Southwest sun, an assassin lies in wait on a scorched mesa for a policeman to come looking for him. These vast Indian lands hold mysteries the white man's logic cannot solve, but this policeman is Navajo, the brain child of mystery writer Tony Hillerman.

The instincts of the Navajo cop are rooted in an ancient culture that can understand clues overlooked by the 'belagana' (Anglo) and herein lies the

magic of Hillerman's novels. Each beautifully crafted story highlights the contrast between Anglo and Indian cultural values and sets it against the stunning backdrop of the American Southwest. The result is something unique in American crime fiction.

As the two heros of his books, Navajo detectives Lt. Joe Leaphorn and Officer Jim Chee, seek to solve each mystery, they take the reader across the dramatic and starkly beautiful reservation landscape; along dusty roads in pick-up trucks, deep into yawning redrock canyons, up moonlit mesas and into ceremonial sings. Like the artist who uses canvas and paints to create an image, Hillerman's words create such an exquisite sense of place that readers of his books have suggested that their friends in the East read them as guidebooks, as well as for pleasure.

To accomplish this, Hillerman makes a point of going to the locations he plans to use in his stories. "Spots I want to write about I really need to memorize sensually," says Hillerman, "in terms of lights and shadows, the way things smell, feel and look. Then when I am really comfortable with a place, I can write about it."

But his books are more than just stories about beautiful scenery and an interesting culture. Hillerman writes first-rate thrillers drawn from a wire service reporter's awareness of man's darker side. Deception, greed, malice and revenge are just some of the ingredients that boil and bubble together in one of his mystery stews to make a whopping good read.

A former university professor, Hillerman's teaching skill surfaces in the painless and entertaining way he weaves the beliefs and customs of the Navajo culture into his stories through the thoughts and actions of his tribal policemen.

Although he has no Indian blood himself (his ancestors were German), Hillerman was drawn to the Navajo culture because it is one of the few American Indian cultures that is still alive and functioning and about which it is still possible to learn. "Unlike the Kachina cult religions that need to be secret because it diminishes the power of the ceremonial if you know about it," Hillerman explains, "Navajo ceremonialism is family and it is open."

Born and raised on a farm in Oklahoma, Hillerman was also attracted to the Navajo because "they are just country boys like me," he says. "I have a

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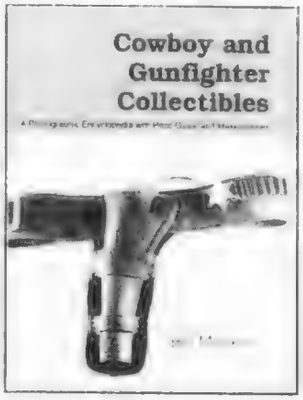

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Unveiling Vail

continued from page 14

recommended. *476-4314.*

Pizza & Pa'ne - In Vail. In the Village Center Mall, this Italian restaurant is a good place for kids, college and younger. Pizza comes in thick or thin and is great. They also have bread that you dip in sauces. *476-7550.*

Eagle's Nest - On Vail Mountain. Located at the top of the Gondola, you can ride both ways if you don't ski or there is no snow. Lunch is served during the winter months. The restaurant is closed in the summer, but an outdoor barbecue is available. Great views anytime. *476-5601.*

The Cook Shack - At Mid-Vail, on the Mountain. Serving lunch only with a southwestern decor. Try the Chinese duck salad or the open-face crab and asparagus sandwiches. *476-5601.*

Fountain Cafe - In Vail. This is known as a fun place for breakfast. They serve great omelettes and crepes. *476-5885.*

BARS AND CLUBS

Where a great time can be had. According to a local newspaper guy, Vail takes care of its own when a great time is overdone by picking you up off the floor, dusting you off, taking you to your door, leaning you there and ringing the bell. We're not sure what they do for visitors, but it sounds friendly enough.

Mickey's Lounge - In Vail. Located in the Lodge at Vail, Mickey Poage's piano playing is the big draw. The popular entertainer plays dixie and show tunes nightly except Tuesdays. *476-5011.*

Pepi's - In Vail Village. Located in the Gasthof Gramshammer, the deck outside the bar is a great place to "star watch." *476-5626.*

The Club - In Vail. This tavern has high energy, acoustic guitar music nightly beginning at 9:30. Après ski starts with music at 2:30. *479-0556.*

Nick's - In Vail Village. A good rock and roll dance bar with a DJ spinning the records. Opens at 8 p.m. *476-3433.*

Hong Kong Cafe - In Vail Village. They serve up some great Bahama Mamas and Mai Tais here as well as a mixed menu that includes wontons, egg rolls, burgers, salads and sandwiches. Good après ski. *476-1818.*

Sheika's - In Vail Village. Located in Gasthof Gramshammer, this disco is named for Pepi's wife. *476-5626.*

The Casablanca Bar - In Vail Village. Located in Cyrano's restaurant, this club has live Top-40 bands and is a great place to hang out. During the summer, join the Friday Afternoon Club, $20 for 26 weeks of happy hour food and activities. *476-5551.*

Lion's End - In Lionshead. Located in the Marriott. A good place to quench your after-dinner thirst or your disco fever. *476-4444*.

The Altitude club - Between Vail and Lionshead. Located in the Doubletree Hotel, this nightspot offers dancing to progressive rock music play by a DJ. *476-7810*.

Sarah's Lounge - In Vail Village. Located in the Christiania at Vail. Nice aprés ski and bar for the older crowd or even the younger crowd who enjoy listening to German songs played by an appropriately dressed German accordionist. *476-5641*.

HOTELS

Sleeping at the best.

The Lodge at Vail - In Vail Village. Constructed in European-Alpine style, the lodge is in the heart of Vail. Literally. The front door opens onto the main shopping drag. Located right next to the ski lifts, one can eat breakfast at Cafe Arlberg and be just 30 seconds to "lift off." The rooms and suites are individually decorated and some are available with fireplace and balcony. There is covered swimming in winter and saunas. In January, the Lodge hosts the annual Vail Wine Society Gastronomic Affair at which world famous chefs and wine makers gather for a delicious week in the gourmet restaurant, Wildflower Inn. All this and Mickey's piano stylings, too. *476-5011*.

Doubletree Hotel at Vail - Contemporary Alpine-style hotel with spacious rooms. Suites are available. Also enjoy the sun terrace, saunas and whirlpool as well as a heated swimming pool. The Altitude Club is a nice disco and the Cafe Colorado comes highly recommended. *476-7810*.

Sonnenalp Hotel - In Vail. One of the best places to stay in the area. Establishment is made up of three buildings. Ask for the Austria House. Rooms have Bavarian-style decor, with hand carved beds, feather comforters and private balconies with mountain and town views. Pools, sauna and four restaurants add to the experience. The white tablecloth breakfast buffet is outstanding, as are the dinners. *476-5656*.

Gasthof Gramshammer - This is a Vail Village landmark. Built in Tyrolean-style and run by the well known skier, Pepi Gramshammer, this lodge has rooms from basic to deluxe. Suites have kitchenettes and apartments have fireplaces. Restaurant and disco, as well as sports shop are on premises. Popular with VIPs. *476-5626*.

Manor Vail Lodge - In Vail Village. This is a chalet-style condominium resort that is a two-block walk from the center of Vail Village. Rooms have a patio or balcony view. Restaurant serves breakfast and dinner. Year-round outdoor swimming and a sauna, steam bath and excercise room help make this a complete place to stay. *476-5651*.

Trapper's Cabin - A misnomer, this elegant mountaintop retreat promises serious pampering. Take the last lift of the day (the only way to get there) and the cabinkeeper greets you at the top of Strawberry Park Lift with a welcome champagne reception. Dip into the outdoor hot tub and an array of delicacies like smoked rattlesnake and buffalo salami. Pricey. *949-5750*.

The Lodge at Cordillera - Located just 25 minutes from Vail, this destination resort and spa offers everything a vacationer could ask for in a beautiful setting. Oversized guest rooms and suites feature fireplaces, balconies and decks. Their Restaurant Picasso serves a European cuisine. *926-2200* or *(800) 548-2721*.

The Vail Athletic Club Hotel - In Vail Village. A modern sports and hotel complex offering everything from restaurant and bar to swimming pool, weight room, racquetball and squash courts,

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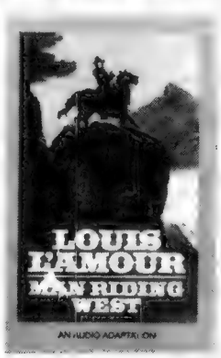

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Unveiling Vail

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Eagle River Inn - In Minturn. This is a unique adobe bed and breakfast inn with 12 guest rooms, decorated with a distinctly Southwestern flair. Innkeeper Beverly Rude's homemade croissants and muffins are legend and the slopes are just 10 minutes away. *827-5761.*

WHERE TO BUY

Shopping suggestions.

Battle Mountain Trading Post - Located in both Lionshead and Minturn - where the original post opened about 100 years ago - this shop offers "Gentlemen's Collectibles," such as original art, bronzes, Indian sculptures and "world class" taxidermy. You can't miss, even if you wanted to, the nine foot stuffed polar bear in the front window. They have old slot machines, pool tables and gas pumps. Also, scrimshaw — carved and inked ivory.

Stuart-Buchanan, Ltd. - In Vail Village. Specializing in imported European antique country furniture, two-thirds of which comes from England and France and the rest from Scandinavia, Spain, Italy and elsewhere. This is very functional, solid 18th and 19th century "poor people's" furniture. They also stock faience, antique clay pottery.

The Golden Bear - In Vail Village. The shop is world renowned for its little golden bear pendants which come in Poppa, Momma or Baby sizes. A trendy trinket if ever there was one.

Gorsuch, Ltd. - Located in Vail Village, this three story shop, which is also found elsewhere in Colorado, serves the skier and winter vacationer wanting elegant clothing for the slopes and the lodge afterwards. Breakfast is served in the downstairs cafe.

Cogswell Gallery - In Vail Village. This art gallery specializes in more eclectic paintings and carvings of a southwestern nature. You can find the range from trendy, "splashy" colorings to the more traditional.

Jill Vickers - In Vail Village. A small shop big on artwork. Similar to the Cogswell Gallery in its contemporary/ traditional mix, it carries a selection of popular polyresin animal figures in various colors.

The Squash Blossom - In Vail Village. Specializing in Southwestern Indian arts.

Polo Ralph Lauren - In Vail Village. Enough said.

Cartier's - In Vail Village. Enough said, again.

Unveiling Vail

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Gourmet Lunch Tour - Cross country ski to a secluded spot and enjoy lunch on red-checkered tablecloths. Try Chef Betsy Robinson's cheese onion pie, stacked crepes or home-baked Swedish limpa rye bread with brie. Don't miss her famous buckeyes - chocolate coated peanut butter balls. *476-5601.*

Snowshoe Dinner - New this year is the evening snowshoe trek to Leroy's Restaurant in Beaver's Creek where you can enjoy the salad bar, burgers and steaks. *476-5601.*

Sightsee Via Snocat - Travel in a heated 12-passenger vehicle to where it's just you and the mountain at 12,300 feet. Gourmet lunch is served on the half-day tour and, for a romantic treat, try the moonlight dinner tour. Resolution Sno-tours, Inc., *476-2556.*

Winter Wildlife - See winter wildlife in their natural habitat. Eagles, longhorn sheep, mule deer and herds of elk wander down to the lower valleys for a different view of the winter. Nova Guides, *949-4232.*

Snowshoe for the day - Discover the beauty and silence of the backcountry with these bargain snowshoe rentals for $8.50 a day. With that you get a map of the area before they turn you loose to slide and glide about. John Galt Mountaineering, *476-1212.*

Glenwood Hot Springs - After a strenuous day on the slopes or a hard night relieving that strenuous day, soak those tired, aching muscles at Glenwood Hot Springs Pool. It is described as the world's largest outdoor mineral hot springs pool. It's less that an hour from Vail and is a favorite way to unwind. *945-6571.*

Ice Skating - You can try your hand (foot or rear-end) at rink skating at the Dobson Arena, located between Vail Village and Lionshead. Some people find falling on ice is more to their liking than hitting the ski slopes. The arena is open to the public daily and features high school and semi-pro ice hockey games most weeks. A December ice show is planned with skater Scott Hamilton.

Horse Drawn Sleigh Rides - There are several of these around the area. Available just as you would hail a cab. Horse drawn carriages trave! through town and sleigh rides make their way through the golf course. Bundle up, snuggle close and see the local sights.

Vail Nordic Center - As we go to press, there is some doubt as to exactly who will do what this winter, but the general consensus is that many of last year's programs will be repeated.

•**Ecology on Skis:** Ages 8 - adult tour leisurely on cross-country skis looking at nature.

•**Snowshoe Adventures:** Ages 8 - adult can learn the art of snowshoeing while enjoying nature.

•**Junior Ranger Program:** For Ages 6 - 12. Different wintertime activities planned each week.

•**Cross-Country Skating Clinic:** All levels of racers learn skate style skiing.

•**Telemark Clinics:** Telemarking is a variation of cross-country. This is for all ability levels

•**Full-Moon Touring:** This sounds great! Enjoy an evening of cross-country skiing under the full moon. It just doesn't get any better.

Call Vail Nature Center, *479-2261* or Vail Mountaineering, *476-4223.*

Children's Programs - The Vail and

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Unveiling Vail

Beaver Creek Ski Schools have "Kids Only" mountain areas. Creative trail maps guide the kids to historical attractions ranging from the Dragon's Breath Mine to the Tombstone Territory. The "Mogul Mice" and "Superstar" programs are designed for children ages 3 1/2 to kindergarten.

Sport Goofy - Sport Goofy, of Disney stature, is the ambassador of children's skiing and he officially welcomes families to the resort. There's even a Sport Goofy Hotline at *476-8601, ext. 4402*, for special events, including après ski with Goofy and the Sport Goofy Challenge at Buckaroo Bowl.

Backcountry Hut and Trail System - Put on your cross-country skis, toss some food, drink and a sleeping bag into a backpack and head out over a series of ungroomed trails which lead to any one of several overnight huts. For a fee, you are provided firewood, cooking utensils and a place to lay your body. The next day, you clean up and move out. Private lodges with some or all amenities are also available. Also open in the summer, but you have to hike in. Reservations required. Tenth Mountain Trail Association, *925-5775*.

Wedel and Powder Weeks - These are well organized, structured professional programs for tuning up for the year's skiing and improving your powder techniques. Run by former professional skier and local fixture, Pepi Gramshammer. *(800) 445-8245* or *476-5626*.

Ski & Spa: Meet The Challenge - One-week programs with corporate sponsorship offer on-the-hill ski instruction, SyberVision, daily exercise classes including aerobics, nutrition seminars, fashion programs and the use of the complete health and spa facilities at the Cascade Club. Lodging is at the Westin Hotel. Several of the programs are for women only, a few are for couples and at least one is for "co-ed business executives." *(800) 426-1796* or in California, *(415) 748-0867*.

Meet the Mountain - An experienced guide escorts your group on an afternoon tour of Vail and Beaver Creek, sharing the area's history, geography and ecology. Tours begin at 1 p.m. Call the Ski School, *476-3239*.

Colorado Ski Museum - The Museum galleries exhibit photographs, artifacts, equipment and clothing portraying over 100 years of Colorado skiing. Also includes the Colorado Ski Hall of Fame. Free, 12 noon to 5 p.m., except Monday. ❖

Art Notes

continued from page 45

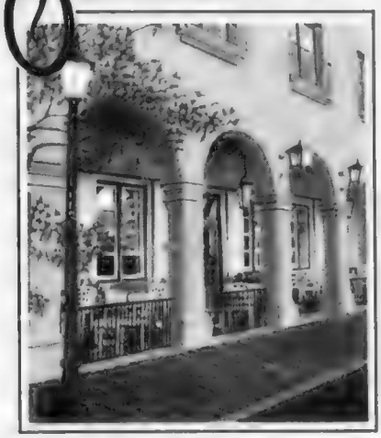
At the Museum of Northern Arizona in Flagstaff, "Daughters of the Desert," the Smithsonian's traveling exhibit of photographs and texts commemorating the history of women anthropologists in the Southwest, runs through Nov. 26. Also on display through April, 1990, "Fine Arts Curator's Choice: MNA Native American Silver," showcasing Native American silver jewelry from the museum's collection. (Route 4, 602-774-5211)

"Heart of the Wilderness," a collection of paintings and sculpture from the Wildlife of the American West Museum in Jackson, Wyoming, will be on view at the Gilcrease Museum in Tulsa, Oklahoma through Dec. 31. "American Art in Miniature 1989" features small works by 50 of America's best living artists, from Nov. 17 to Dec. 18. 1400 Gilcrease Museum Rd., 918-582-3122.

Since its creation in the mid-17th century, the Taj Mahal has been known the world over as one of the most beautiful and romantic of all buildings. Now, for the first time, an exhibition, "Romance of the Taj Mahal," which premieres at the Los Angeles County Museum, Dec. 17 through Mar. 11, 1990, examines the significance and interrelation of Indian arts from the reign of Shah Jahan, creator of the Taj Mahal. Over 200 paintings, carpets, textiles, fine gems, glass, jewelry, prints, drawings and photographs show why this magnificent mausoleum has become one of the most visible symbols of Indian civilization. 5905 Wilshire Blvd., 213-857-6000.

The 1990 ArtFest — The Santa Fe International Art Festival, produced in association with the National Audubon Society, will benefit conservation and environmental activities while offering a record number of cash prizes to competing artists. A total of $700,000 in awards to artists and photographers will be matched by an additional $700,000 pledged to the National Audubon Society via Environmental Action Grants solicited from corporate sponsors. Prizes will be offered for the best interpretations of the festival's theme, "The Environment We Share — The Interdependence of All Species." Entrants are being sought in all media, including painting, drawing, sculpture, printmaking, works in paper or fabric and experimental art. Artists may submit up to five works per single entry. Deadline for entries is Jan. 15, 1990. Submissions should be sent to ArtFest Partners, 535 Cordova Rd., Suite 208, Santa Fe, NM 87501, 505-982-1132. ❖

Santa Fe Romance



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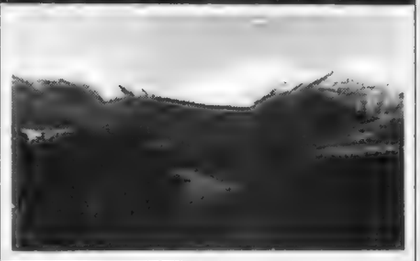

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The Mysteries of Tony Hillerman

continued from page 47

feeling for a culture that is rural, poor and isolated, which my childhood was, and which is identical to the Navajo culture. I can talk to a Navajo my age and (find) we both grew up hauling water, depending on weather and livestock for our survival...all that stuff. I understand a sense of not having the power to influence anything, so he and I have a great deal in common."

His respect for Indian culture is clearly evident in the sensitive, unpatronizing way he writes about it and the respect appears to be mutual. In 1986, the Navajo Tribal Council awarded him a great tribute in the form of a plaque acclaiming him a "Special Friend of the Dineh" (the Navajo's name for themselves) for his accurate and sensitive portrayal of the strength and dignity of traditional Navajo culture.

Writing was not a planned career. "I had always loved to read and I kind of liked to write," Hillerman says, "but when you grow up in the country, it never occurs to you that writers are ordinary people or something you could aspire to be." A newspaperwoman who had read some of the letters he'd written to his mother while he was in Europe during the war suggested he pursue writing when he returned home. Since he had no burning desire to do something else, that seemed as good an idea as any.

His years as a reporter with United Press International had a strong impact on the development of his compact writing style. UPI sent him to Santa Fe as their Bureau Chief in 1952. Later, he left to become editor of the *New Mexican* in Santa Fe. Then, in 1962, he decided to go into teaching and moved to Albuquerque with his wife Marie, and their six children. "I felt like I'd stopped growing so I decided to re-pot myself, went back to school and got a master's degree in creative writing in order to teach," he recalled.

In 1968 he began writing his first novel, *The Blessing Way*. "I saw the possibilities of what you could do with the Navajo culture. I thought it was a good way to tell a story. A contrast of cultures and a way to put values in highlights," he says.

He particularly admires the Indian belief in the metaphysical that affects the way they live. "I think it shows an illuminated intelligence not to simply let your reason take you to the limits of the rational and say, since I can't understand beyond this point, it doesn't exist. Navajos get into this poetry that tries to

The Mysteries of Tony Hillerman

connect the knowable with the unknowable and accepts the unknowing."

His characters, Chee and Leaphorn, have very different personalities. As the younger of the two, Chee is more involved in his own culture. He is even learning a complicated ceremonial sing, the Blessing Way. He is not as knowledgeable as Leaphorn about white people and is more curious about them. "Leaphorn thinks more like I do," notes Hillerman. "Chee is like the romantics that came along in the sixties. The idealist. But neither character is based on anyone I have known."

When he first started to write these novels, Hillerman thought he knew more about the Navajo culture than he actually did. "I had read about it for quite awhile and thought I had a pretty good grasp of it, but once I started writing a book, I found myself uneasy about stuff, so I did a lot more reading and looking at things to fill the gaps." The research has never ended.

He directs his inquiries toward finding out how alive traditional behavior actually is in the culture of the reservation Navajo as they exist today. "If they are not living on the reservation, they're probably not following the Navajo way, because ceremonialism doesn't work off the reservation," Hillerman points out. "The Holy People taught the Dineh that you have to be between four specified mountains up there for it to work. So a Navajo in Los Angeles, for example, can't perform a curing ceremony."

To find out how today's traditional Navajo thinks, Hillerman goes to the reservation to interview Navajo friends about customs and traditions and he questions people he meets at trading posts, rug auctions and sheep shearings. "I've never had a Navajo refuse to answer a question, although they sometimes put me on. They're famous for this kind of humor and they continue to have great fun doing that. But you learn after awhile and I never believe anything until I've heard it from several sources."

The Navajo do not hesitate to correct him either if they disagree with something he's written. "I had one guy tell me the child in *Dance Hall of the Dead* wasn't bashful enough," says Hillerman. "Another Navajo told me that Leaphorn shouldn't be so skeptical about witchcraft, that he doesn't know any Navajos that aren't believers, but I know some who are skeptical and, anyway, that's how I want the man to be. I make mistakes," Hillerman admits, "mostly about small details. But I've never had

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ARIZONA

The Mysteries of Tony Hillerman

any Navajo question anything (I wrote) about their religion."

At other times, it is a question of a writer exercising a little poetic license. "I had Chee practicing a sand painting outdoors in one book. I knew that was wrong even when I wrote it. I just didn't want to have to go through all of the rigamarole of writing another chapter to move things around so I wrote an author's note to explain that this was unorthodox."

Story ideas can come from almost anywhere. An item in the Hopi weekly newspaper about the vandalizing of a windmill gave inspiration for his book, *The Dark Wind*, and the basis for his newest book, *Talking God*, was developed from a piece he read in the *Washington Post* about a militant Indian group who asked the Smithsonian to surrender some Native American bones in their possession.

His books are required reading in Navajo schools and Navajo parents and teachers tell Hillerman that his books have stirred up interest in the old customs among the young people. In fact, the students of the Indian school in Santa Fe chose him as their favorite author.

The policemen may provide a bridge for the Anglo reader to cross over into the Navajo world but when Hillerman writes about the Hopi or Zuni world as he did in *The Dark Wind* and *Dance Hall of the Dead*, his Navajo readers are in equally unfamiliar territory. Then everybody learns together.

In 1973, when Hillerman's third book, *Dance Hall of the Dead*, won the Edgar Allan Poe Award from the Mystery Writers of America, his fans were still mostly made up of regional readers. *Skinwalkers* (1986) gave him a broader base of appeal. It won the Golden Spur Award of the Western Writers of America as best novel of the year and also France's Grande Prix de Litterature Policiere for best foreign crime book. His last book, *Thief of Time*, expanded his audience even further and *Talking God* made the best seller lists across the country as soon as it was released. *The Washington Post* described Hillerman's books as "one of the consistently superior — and definitely distinctive — mystery series of the last 15 years." However you choose to say it, Tony Hillerman spins a mighty good tale.

Judith Tabor Gaugenmaier is a freelance writer and photographer who specializes in articles on travel and the American Southwest.

SOLAR OASIS

continued from page 41

tower and modern engineering. It evolved because ERL was interested in how to use greenhouses to solve Africa's food problems. The project had to be affordable without the heavy and expensive requirements of electricity and fans. Thus, the cool tower, which can be run for mere dollars a month.)

As the water at the top of the tower circulates, it evaporates into the air, making that air denser and cooler. Cool air falls, and as it reaches the bottom of the tower, floods the rooms it passes through with cool, moist air. When it's a sweltering 100 degrees outside, the guest house will be about 74 degrees, the zaguán no higher than 85. The Hodges were pleasantly surprised to find the cool air rounded several corners to cool the east side of the house (their main living quarters) as well.

"We wanted to have an eclectic assemblage of technologies here so that when somebody came to visit ERL, or when we had international visitors, we could bring them home," Carl says. "Everybody always thinks cool towers are nice but looks at them as engineering tools. We can say, 'Come to our house where it's part of our lifestyle and see for yourself.'

"We thought that would move the technology faster. And also, you learn things by doing them. Nobody's really going to understand one of these things until they live with one 24 hours a day. So if we're going to design houses that we say are environmentally sustainable, we'd better have one ourselves."

The Hodges' home is literally split in two by the zaguán. To the west is the guesthouse; to the east is a suite of rooms Carl calls The Bedroom and Beth calls The House.

The main room is indeed their bedroom, but it's much, much more. Half the room is for sleeping, the other half for lounging or casual entertaining.

"A lot of the thinking that went into this space came from the discovery that we were happiest using a hotel room somewhere," Carl explains. "If we had a hotel room that wasn't claustrophobic, we were happier. We had a place to plop (pointing to the spacious couches he and Beth both enjoy tremendously) or could throw our stuff on the bed."

The room is large and airy, with windows on three sides. Carl says he read that at a subconscious level, a room is significantly more comfortable if it has windows on at least two sides.

"I demand light from the East," Carl emphasizes. "In any house I'd build, I'd compromise almost anything else to have

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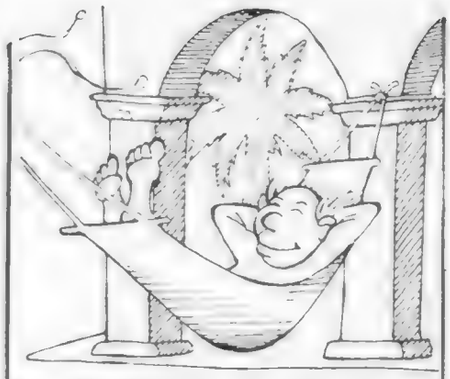

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SOLAR OASIS

that. One of the things I find incredibly comfortable in this house is this south, east and west light. You can sit here all day long. And it's designed to take advantage of the solar angle so you get more sunshine in the winter."

On a counter lining the west wall sits a significant symbol of the Hodges' lifestyle: a computerized networking system. It's a compact, efficient international message exchange unit that links them easily with friends in Tucson, New York, London — literally the world.

"Because of the planetary nature of our work, the people we communicate with are from all over the place," Carl says. "I think it's safe to say that the evolution that has occurred in our life, that which most impacts it, is computer communications. Because of this, our best friends are not necessarily limited to Tucson."

The computer is used for pleasure and for business, two things that seem completely interchangeable for the Hodges.

"Work is an integral part of our lives," Carl says. "Most of what we do is work-related, but it isn't work. We don't have much 'off time'."

When they do have free time all to themselves, Beth enjoys going to the movies in the middle of the day, especially on a Sunday afternoon. Carl likes to walk, and usually does so in the evening around sunset. And although they do own a television, it is sitting on the floor in a corner.

A deceptively simple-looking part of the room's decor is a round globe on the coffee table. It's an ecosphere, a minute version of the work the Hodges are involved with at Biosphere II.

"What's happening," explains Carl, "is that this is a closed system with only light going in. The algae in there is photosynthesizing, producing oxygen as it grows. There's a little shrimp in there that eats the algae. Its excrement becomes the nutrients for the algae. It also gives off carbon dioxide as it expires. The algae needs carbon dioxide for its photosynthesis.

"Biosphere II will be a very grand version of this, but instead of just one ecological system, we will have many different biomes made up of many ecological systems."

He points to the minute, half-inch Ateid shrimp. "It's the perfect pet for us, because you never have to feed it or walk it. You just leave it there."

Behind the bedroom or "the house" are two room-sized closets, one of their self-described luxuries, and the crowning luxury of the entire house, the bathroom. This room was added to the original house, its outside brick work still forming the wall behind the large double sink and counter area. The sunken tub and shower are tiled and surrounded by windows, but no traditional window coverings or a shower curtain. Carl precisely planned where the bath should be to maximize the solar experience there.

The traditional home owner will perhaps have noticed the absence of a kitchen description. Probably because there isn't one. The Hodges do eat, of course, but the kitchen is part of Phase Three of the remodeling.

They do cook, however. The toaster travels to wherever it's needed, and the coffee pot is a permanent fixture in the bedroom. Meat, fish and vegetables are grilled on a gas grill out back, although some dishes (such as turkey) are cooked in a large convection microwave oven. "I don't miss having a kitchen," Beth says, "although meals do have to be timed very carefully. But it's kinda fun."

The back patio area is nicely bricked, with stairs leading down to an interesting desert yard, complete with an inviting Jacuzzi. It, too, is part of a remodeling phase that hasn't happened yet. "All this in the back will be our solar oasis," Beth explains, "and we're not sure what that means yet or we'd tell you!"

(The solar oasis is a concept developed by ERL and marketed by PDC. A prototype of this system is in the process of being designed and the cool, biological urban biome will be in place in downtown Phoenix in 1990.)

A nice place to finish the tour of the Hodges' inside-outside house is the margarita deck, perched on the roof overlooking the zaguán and magnifying the view of the cool tower. It's a wonderful place to sit and enjoy a sunset or sunrise, a nice space to share with friends.

"The purpose of this deck was both to have a drink and watch the sun go down," Carl says. "It's easy to talk to people about solar angles out here."

It also lends a special view of the exterior plan of the Hodges' property. Where there once was grass is now an area of natural desert plants, mostly ocotilla and yuccas. They mark the outer edge of a wash that Carl built. At the high end of the "wash," rain water or recycled shower water flows along the wash to also drench Carl's wild-flower garden, complete with loquat and pomegranate trees, and huge, wild bushes of a purple, pampas-like grass.

Chris Sauder is a Tucson-based freelance writer who is currently working on several books. ❖

Hispanic Folk Art

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nutely interwoven straw is applied to a finished wood surface, creating a surface that resembles wood inlay.

"My instructor in a WPA program mentioned the process," says the 74-year-old Rodriguez. "He didn't have any examples to show us, but I tried it anyway. Originally I did straw inlay, but digging into the wood took too darn long and people didn't appreciate it." The largest piece of Rodriguez' career is shown in the permanent gallery — an eight-foot cross in which applique depicts the life of Christ. "Straw is limited to two or three shades, so the challenge is in the design," he notes.

Rodriguez' wife Paula began working in straw once her children were grown. One of her floral crosses is displayed in the contemporary gallery.

The museum will be a catalyst for emerging artists. Carver Manuel Lopez, for example, says that seeing the collection of religious figures encouraged him to experiment with natural pigments.

A supplemental program, "Tradiciones Vivas," brings storytellers, folk musicians, matachines dancers, carvers, weavers, furniture makers and various workshops to the museum on most weekends through June, 1990. "These events dramatize that Hispanic folk art is not frozen in time, but thrives, even as it changes and develops," says Dana Everts, folk arts coordinator for New Mexico.

Commenting on the role of the museum, Dr. Lucero recalled an earlier show. "Years ago, we exhibited 'The Spanish Textile Tradition of New Mexico and Colorado.' It changed the lives of at least four women I know, all of whom are still weaving. And it changed my life, as I drew my dissertation topic from it. The new wing will not only strengthen the Hispanic folk art movement but give it further validity."

The Hispanic Heritage Wing is located in the Museum of International Folk Art, 706 Camino Lejo, Santa Fe, New Mexico. Open daily, 10-5. Admission is $3.50 for adults; children are free. For information on Museum of New Mexico exhibitions and special events, phone 505-827-6463. For a listing of scheduled folk art performances and demonstrations write the Museum of New Mexico, Box 2087, Santa Fe, NM 87504.

Susan Kaye is a travel writer and photographer and the author of "Small People in Colorado Places." ❖

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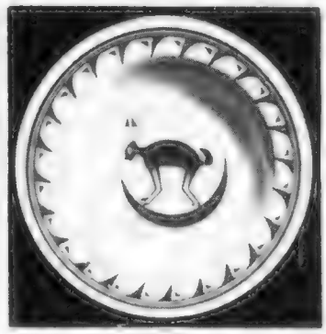

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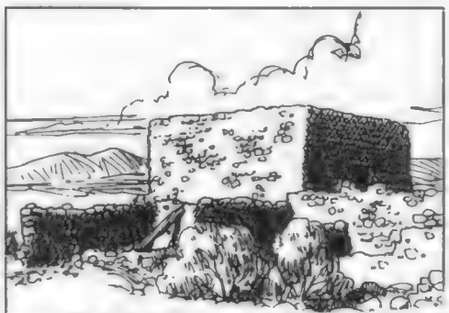

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continued from page 29

theater, the **Invisible Theater** that specializes in plays of an experimental nature, the **Arizona Opera Company** which does professional, classical opera and the **a.k.a. Theater** for avant garde productions. Check out the University of Arizona's **Centennial Hall** for a variety of traveling acts from plays to music and dance concerts.

TYPICALLY SOUTHWEST SHOPPING

Tucson is alive and well with Southwestern shops and boutiques where one can find treasures, striking jewelry and ethnic clothing. **Maya Palace, The Departure, Berta Wright** and **Limited Additions** feature sophisticated ethnic fashions that complement today's casual lifestyle. **The Kaibab Shop, Bahti Indian Arts, Many Goats, Desert House Crafts** and **Desert Son, Inc.** carry Indian arts and crafts, classic contemporary jewelry, silver buckles, kachinas, pottery, rugs and baskets. Try **Pierini** or **Beth Friedman Jewelry** for different jewelry designs, often using non-traditional gems. Long-time Tucson merchants, **Carlos Diaz Silversmiths and Goldsmiths, The Thunderbird Shop** and **Alberto Contreras and Sons** carry exquisite pieces and will customize any jewelry.

Settler's West, Blackhawk Gallery, Wolfe Galleries and **Sanders Galleries** all share the same complex on Campbell Ave. Navajo rugs, a wonderful mix of Western and wildlife paintings, sculpture and contemporary Western jewelry are just a sampling of what is available. **De Grazia Gallery in the Sun** houses a complete collection of the well-known artist's multi-media work from 1925-1982. **Venture Fine Arts** is an adventure in Southwestern wildlife paintings and landscapes. **Rosequist Galleries** and **El Presidio Gallery** focus on contemporary and traditional western art. **Mary Peachin's Art Company** is the place for contemporary arts, posters and crafts of the Southwest. Those wonderful howling coyotes hang out there. **Primitive Arts** is world renowned for collections of American Indian, Pre-Columbian and American Folk Art.

GALLERIES

Beth O'Donnell Gallery specializes in original contemporary paintings, sculpture and ceramics. A good bet for contemporary art is **Eleanor Jeck Galleries**. Contemporary crafts of diverse materials epitomize **Obsidian Gallery**. Vases, perfume bottles and glass displays are available at the **Philabaum Studio and Glass Gallery** and there are glass-blowing demonstrations as well.

TRADITIONAL SHOPPING

Snazzy options for the ladies abound in the malls and boutiques around Tucson. **A K Jensen** has dynamite clothing, also terrific earrings and accessories. **Posh** and **Vivace** in Crossroads Festival are good for knits, cottons and fun clothes for casual wear. **Firenze Boutique, Gran Via** and **Marcus Le Blanc** have European designs. **Cachet** and **Rochelle K** are great for a unique look. **Cele Peterson**, Tucson's most enduring fashion grand dame, sells elegant clothing at four locations. Her daughter Quinta runs a boutique of the same name. Traditional men's clothing is available at **Clifton Smith Menswear, Franklin's** and **Mills Touché**. All three stores are locally owned. **Bambini e la donna Boutique** houses an ambitious inventory, including unique European fashions for women, children and maternity fashions from New York. This is a must-see spot for grandmothers! **The Wooden Apple**, located near Bambini in Crossroads Festival, also has handmade kids' clothes and magnificent christening dresses.

STRICTLY PHYSICAL

There are many great ways to spend wintry days in Tucson—outdoors! That's what it's all about in the land of the sun. If golf's your bag, there are loads of 18-hole courses. **Randolph Park** is centrally located and hosts the LPGA tour. **Star-Pass** is another course that's open to the public and where part of the Tucson Open is played. Naturally, the resorts sport great courses as well. **The Tucson Racquet Club** serves up an abundance of lighted tennis courts (34 in all) and out-of-towners can play for a nominal fee. There's a restaurant on the premises that serves good breakfasts, sandwiches and salads. Take a hike, but call the **Southern Arizona Hiking Club** first. They can give you detailed info on trail difficulty, locations & durations. Grab a bike for a great ride on one of the many dedicated paths in town. Just an hour away, there's fishing at **Peña Blanca Lake**, just north of Nogales. Most of the larger hotels have workout facilities on site. If you find them lacking, **Old Pueblo Athletic Club** or **Tucson Racquet Club** would be happy to accommodate your needs for a small fee. Be sure to mention that you are a visitor.

KID STUFF

For a break in the action, take the kids to **Golf N' Stuff** with two miniature golf courses, Wet-N-Wild Bumper Boats, Lil' Indy Karts, an arcade and a snack bar. **Sportspark** has a Hydrotube Water Slide,

bumper cars, softball, volleyball and a play space for little kids. Great hands-on exhibits at the **Tucson Children's Museum** are an adventure in culture, health and science.

OFF THE BEATEN PATH

Meander along the trails at **Tohono Chul Park** where you can spot desert plants and animals. Stop at the tearoom which is open for breakfast, lunch and high tea. Adjacent to the park is **The Haunted Book Shop**, a great place to browse and pick up a new book.

La Paloma Personal Services Center is a handy place to know about, especially if your hotel doesn't provide massages, facials & pedicures. They will do make-up applications for a special evening on the town. **Gadabout** has five salons located throughout Tucson. Top-notch people are available there for hair and nails. **Dolly Quinn's** will make a special effort to work you in for a quick hairdo or start from scratch. **Canyon Ranch Health Resort** offers a Spa Renewal Day. Call from your home town before you leave to book a rewarding fitness experience plus personal pampering. It is a great way to see Canyon Ranch without checking in.

The Gaslight Theatre is a real gas for family entertainment. Booing and hissing the villain are all part of the show. **Little Anthony's Diner** right across the walkway is a jumpin' '50's joint with Elvis records and bubble gum contests.

On to Tucson's gorgeous scenery. If it's a picnic you're hankering for, start at **Lucky Wishbone**. Their steak fingers, fried chicken and shrimp are terrific and are available at all their locations. **Jack's Original Barbeque** is another picnic idea — Jack and his ribs are a Tucson institution. Move along to one of **eegee's** many locations for their unique frozen slush drink (strawberry, lemon, piña colada, to name just a few). They also make great mixers. And now that you're geared up, head to **Gates Pass** for one of the best views of a spectacular Tucson sunset.

If moonlight tram rides over magestic mountains are your thing, head to **Sabino Canyon** for a romantic ride to the top. The rides are offered Nov. 9th, 10th and 11th and Dec. 8th, 9th and 10th for 1989 (Full moons). Have an early dinner at **Hidden Valley Inn**. It has a country-western feeling with typical steak and beans type food. Don't miss the dioramas.

If going to the top of Sabino Canyon gives you a lift, try soaring over the city in a hot air balloon as an encore. **Balloon America** will be glad to give you a lift.

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THINGS TO DO

For the first-time visitor, places not to be missed include the world-renowned **Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum** with its natural habitat animal enclosures, **Old Tucson** movie location, the collection of 200 historic aircraft at the **Pima Air Museum** and **Mission San Xavier Del Bac**, the northernmost mission of New Spain founded in the late 1600's. Also, **Grace H. Flandrau Planetarium** on the University of Arizona campus offers nightly laser star shows and the **Arizona State Museum** and **Arizona Historical Society**, both located at the west end of the U of A campus, feature a view of life during earlier times.

If you have the time to explore, there are several interesting day-trips to surrounding areas. The **Amerind Foundation Museum** *(1-586-3666)* is an American Indian cultural feast in an out-of-the-way place called Texas Canyon near the little town of Dragoon. Take a picnic basket, if you like, so you can hike through the canyon. Try the daytime tour of **Kitt Peak National Observatory** (they operate the telescopes at night and you can't be there), but take your own food. **Nogales, Sonora**, is a souvenir hunter's haven right across the Mexican border, just 65 miles to the south. On the way to or from the border, stop in **Tubac**, a little community with more than 50 arts and crafts shops. Try a little golfing and dining at the country club. *(1-398-2575).*

To the southeast is **Bisbee**, where you can take the guided tour of the underground copper mine and visit the Mining Museum. The Lavender Pit, one of the world's great open pit copper mines, is near the middle of town. *(1-432-2141).* **Tombstone**, "the town too tough to die," is a must for Western history buffs wanting to get close to the famed "Shoot-out at the OK Corral." *(1-457-2211).* Finally, if you get the urge to peel or stomp a grape, uncork a trip to **R.W. Webb, Sonoita** and **Arizona Vineyards**, local wineries which are within easy drives of the city.

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

Here are just some of the many things that are going on in Tucson and nearby towns during November and December. If you're interested in finding out even more, drop by the information desk at the Metropolitan Tucson Convention & Visitors Bureau on Scott Avenue or pick up the phone. *624-1817.*

Nov. 25-26: **Bisbee Home Tour**

Tour turn-of-the century homes, furnished with exquisite antiques, in Old Bisbee. *1-432-2141.*

Dec. 8-10: **Fourth Avenue Street Fair**

Wonderful outdoor arts and crafts festival featuring artisans and entertainers from around the U. S. Lots of good food, too. *624-5004.*

Dec. 16-19: **Winterhaven Festival Of Lights**

The little development of Winterhaven outdoes itself every year with holiday decorations. For two weeks before Christmas, you can drive through the area and enjoy houses adorned with all manner of Christmas decorations. *624-1817.*

Dec. 20-22: **Fiesta Navidad** and **The Festival Of Lights**

A sight to see and hear in Tubac. Luminarias and caroling in the streets. *1-389-9155.*

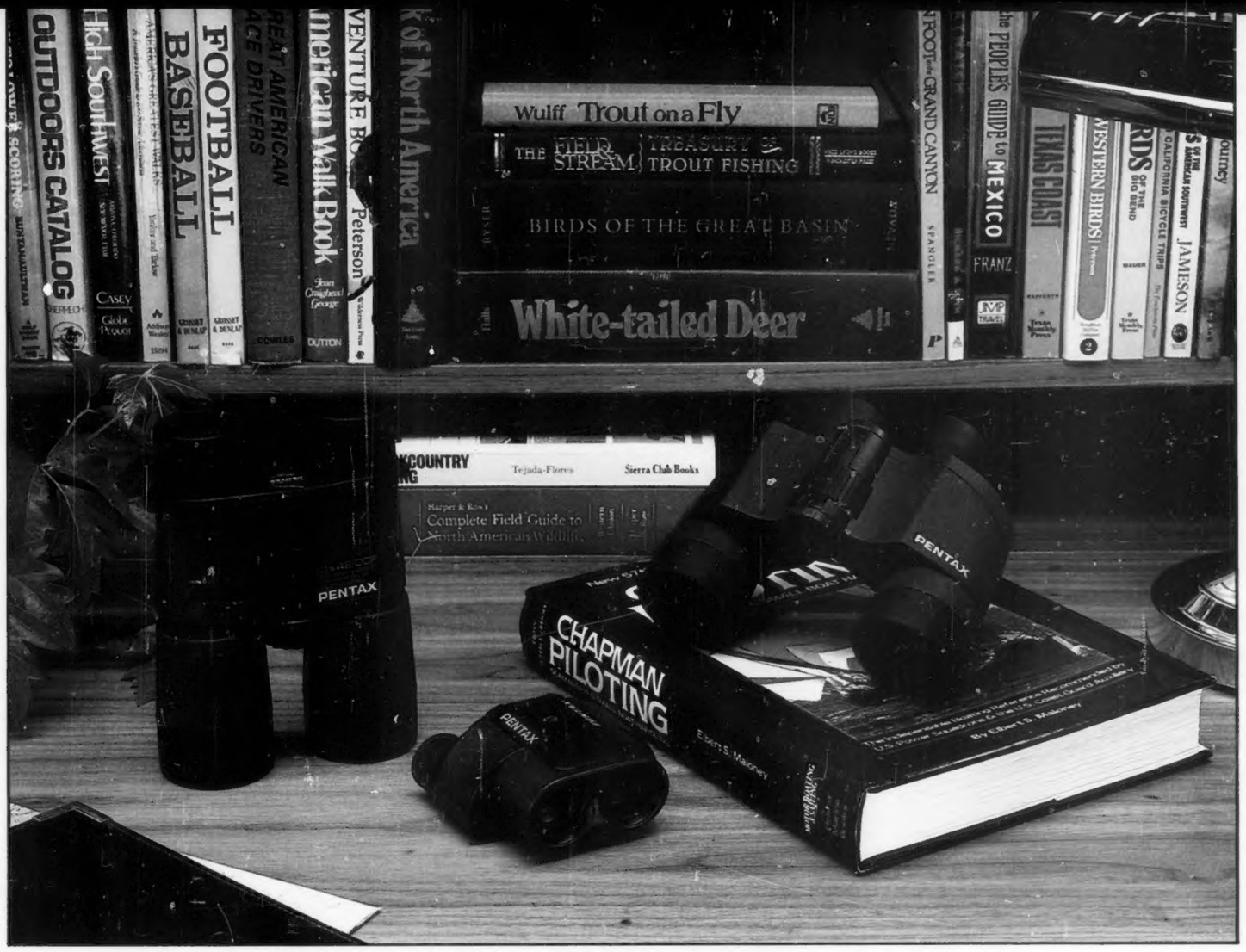
Memorable Memories

The editors' 10 best bets for enjoying Tucson:

- Frozen margaritas at Casa Molina.
- High Tea at Loews Ventana Canyon Resort.
- A felt or straw cowboy hat fitted to your head with precision by Arizona Hatters.
- Scones for breakfast at Cafe Terra Cotta.
- Newspapers from your part of the country at Bookman's.
- Guacamole prepared tableside at Los Mayas.
- Custom designed cowboy boots from Stewart Boot Co. that fit your foot perfectly.
- Great burgers and beer in mason jars at the Big A.
- The Concorde chocolate dessert at Katherine & Company.
- Homemade ice cream at Stewart's.

FELIZ NAVIDAD Y PROSPERO AÑO NUEVO!

Wayne Washburn is a Tucson writer and poet and an assistant editor of Tucson Lifestyle Magazine.



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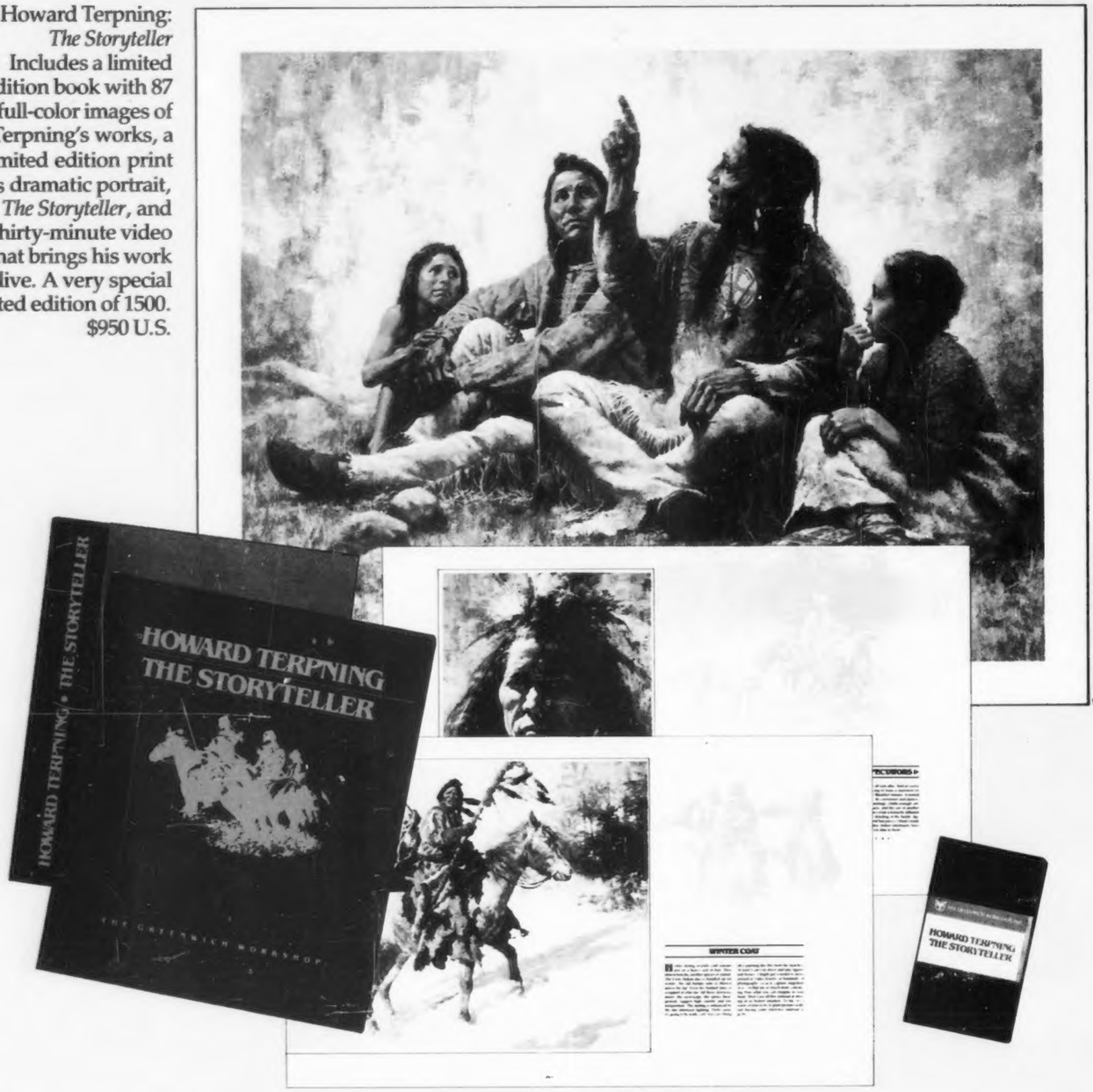

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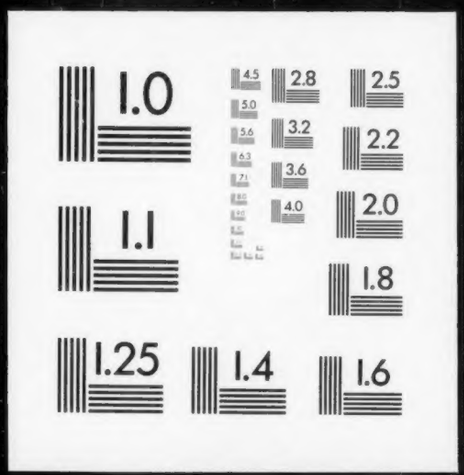
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